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JPRS L/8687

27 September 1979

Worldwide Report

NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

(FOUO 41/79)



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27 September 1979

WORLDWIDE REPORT
NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

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AUSTRALIA

SENATE COMMITTEE CONCERNED OVER USE OF HYPNOTIC DRUGS

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 11 Aug 79 p 10

[Text] Canberra.--About \$300,000 was spent annually on mandrax prescriptions for Australia's 320,000 repatriation beneficiaries, according to figures presented yesterday to a Veterans' Affairs Department Senate Committee.

The department told the standing committee on social welfare that 7,662,328 items were dispensed for beneficiaries in 1977-78 at a direct cost of more than \$33 million.

Just under 1 per cent of this total drug bill was spent on the dangerous hypnotic mandrax which has now been restricted in some States because of abuse by drug dependents.

The committee chairman (Senator Baume) asked departmental medical officers what could be done about the high level of mandrax prescriptions.

The Medical Services chief director (Dr. K. Fleming) said two options were available -- to prohibit Mandrax use or begin an education campaign.

Questioned

The committee is inquiring into the use and

abuse of medication available over the counter or on prescription.

Pharmaceutical services director Dr. G. Brooks said there would always be problems with the prescribing of hypnotics.

The department said in a submission that the incidence of prescribing of a number of the top 40 non-national health scheme drugs (including mandrax) could be questioned as not being in the best interest of the patients.

These drugs also included carbital and nembudaine.

The department's submission said continual surveillance of the local officer scheme was carried out to minimise incidence of "inappropriate and expensive prescribing."

Regular surveys were conducted to establish prescribing trends.

But the department said staff restrictions had limited the degree of surveillance that could be undertaken.

Chairman of the A.C.T. consumer affairs council, Mr. M. J. Vernon told the committee later the council was concerned about the misuse of nutritional supplements.

Latest market research had shown that the total vitamin market was worth more than \$10 million at wholesale price to pharmacists.

Fat soluble vitamins were stored in the body and vitamins "A" and "D" had toxic limits beyond which their consumption could cause illness and death.

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AUSTRALIA

MARIHUANA CONFERENCE TOLD CORRUPTION AIDS DRUG TRADE

Melbourne THE AGE in English 16 Aug 79 p 18

[Article by David English]

[Text]

ADELAIDE. — Australia's expanding heroin trade relied on police corruption and political tolerance for survival, A Sydney academic told a conference on cannabis yesterday.

The heroin trade was virtually impossible to eradicate with established police structures, Dr. Alfred McCoy said.

The American-born Dr. McCoy is a lecturer in history at the University of NSW and author of the book 'The Politics of Heroin in South-East Asia'.

He said overseas experience had shown that political tolerance for syndicate-type crime and a modicum of police corruption were necessary for heroin trade.

There was no doubt that these existed in Sydney and to a lesser extent in Melbourne.

Dr. McCoy said the amount of heroin seized when three Australians were arrested in Bangkok last year showed that heroin trafficking to Australia was highly organised.

There had been a massive increase in the use of heroin in Australia in the past two years as a direct result of the police crackdown on marijuana, he added.

While marijuana had been nearly impossible to find in mid 1978, liberal quantities of heroin had been available.

The crackdown had had some disturbing effects, he said.

"Most cannabis sellers have been replaced by a new breed of drug dealers, heroin pushers, for whom violence and murder are requisite tools of trade."

Australia's drug sub-culture had been radically changed as a result.

Dr. McCoy told the fourth National Cannabis Conference that heroin trading ought to be an easy thing to eradicate in theory.

A great deal of the trade was predictable and carried out on the streets. It was also expanding and involving more people, and therefore theoretically easier for police to detect.

But its profit structure, which was huge, made it politically strong and virtually impossible to eradicate with established police structures.

"With their enormous profit the crime syndicates have the money to purchase political protection and police complicity."

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AUSTRALIA

MIGRANT DRUG RACKETEERS SAID TO FINANCE ACTIVITIES ABROAD

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 14 Aug 79 p 3

[Text]

POLICE from the Commonwealth Undercover Squad have received allegations that some political activities overseas are being financed from Australia by migrant drug racketeers.

The allegations were repeated yesterday when a senior police officer with the squad gave evidence in Sydney to the Federal Royal Commission into Drugs.

Detective Inspector Peter Lamb also told the inquiry that organised crime among some ethnic groups was on the increase.

He said he took part in Operation Gaslight, a surveillance operation set up in 1978 to investigate information given to the royal commission by witnesses.

A select team of investigators worked from an old building in Sydney, away from

Commonwealth Police headquarters. As the size of Australia's migrant community increased, law enforcement agencies made more frequent contact with ethnic criminal groups, Inspector Lamb said.

But lawbreakers among ethnic groups were in the minority, he said. In some cases the underlying factor behind their crimes was patriotism for their home countries.

'ETHNIC CELLS'

They did not consider the acts criminal, but just methods to further causes supported by their ethnic group.

Inspector Lamb said inquiries were difficult because these groups did not assimilate easily. They established cells from which they conducted their "nefarious activities."

Cell members were not willing to assist investigation into offences they considered aided their so-called "struggle."

He said another common problem was the language barrier and using interpreters was not always satisfactory because of security leaks.

Inspector Lamb said it might be necessary to set up a linguistic division of specialist police who could work as interpreters as well as monitor electronic surveillance equipment.

He said Operation Gaslight had watched people nominated by witnesses and had taken photographic evidence.

Inspector Lamb said there did not appear to be a Mr Big operating in Australia.

Instead there were organised criminal groups which did not appear to be contained by geographic borders or a particular type of crime.

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AUSTRALIA

JUDGE SLAMS SOCIAL WORKER'S ADVICE ON MARIHUANA USE

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 11 Aug 79 p 1

[Text]

A SOCIAL WORKER, who told a mother her son's use of marihuana was no more serious than smoking tobacco, was unfit for the profession, the Chief Justice (Sir Charles Wanstall) said yesterday.

Sir Charles jailed Jonathan Paul Baird, 21, university student, formerly of Woodstock Road, Toowong, for three years.

Baird pleaded guilty to charges of having had heroin for sale or supply, having had hashish oil for sale or supply and having had utensils used in administering a dangerous drug.

Mr. Sturgess (for Baird) said that when Baird began to get involved with drugs, his mother contacted a social worker.

He said the social worker told Mrs. Baird that her son's marihuana smoking was no more serious than smoking tobacco.

The Crown prosecutor (Mr. K. O'Brien) said Baird told detectives he had been selling heroin to friends — at \$30 a deal — for about a month.

Baird also said he had been addicted to heroin for six months.

Sir Charles said Baird's heroin addiction was a classic example of the dangers of the availability of marihuana.

He said marihuana operated as an introduction to drugs as a cult. It conditioned the mind to accept illegal drug use and became the trading stock to buy heroin.

He said it was unfortunate that there were people clamouring for the decriminalisation of marihuana — people who failed to realise the dangerous consequences of the availability of what they called "soft drugs."

Mr. Sturgess said Baird had been an excellent student and was in the third year of a humanities course at Griffith University when the offences took place.

He said Baird had been introduced to drugs during overseas travels.

Baird went to the drug dependence unit voluntarily for his heroin addiction, Mr. Sturgess said.

He said Baird's addiction started before he became involved with selling the drug. Baird was a victim of the unlawful trade in drugs.

Sir Charles Wanstall said if the social worker did make the comment about marihuana, he or she had no appreciation of the consequences of involvement with the drug.

He said judges and the legal community were only too well acquainted with the connection between marihuana and graduation to heroin.

He said it gave him no pleasure to jail young people like Baird, but he owed a duty to the community to do so, to overcome the risk of young people taking up with dangerous drugs.

He jailed Baird for a total of three years.

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AUSTRALIA

GLAUCOMA SUFFERER'S REQUEST TO IMPORT MARIJUANA DENIED

Melbourne THE AGE in English 9 Aug 79 p 6

[Article by Jennifer Byrne]

[Text] Washington, August 8.--Australia's health officials have refused a Washington glaucoma sufferer's application to bring his prescribed 'medicine' --up to 210 marijuana cigarettes--with him when he visits Australia next week.

Mr. Robert Randall, 31, receives a daily, legal dose of 10 pure marijuana cigarettes each day from the US Government.

He has appealed against the Australian Department of Health's ruling, citing medical opinion that the daily use of marijuana is critical to the successful control of his debilitating eye disease.

"Without marijuana, I would suffer immediate injury to my eyes and would, eventually, go blind," Mr. Randall said yesterday.

The department has blocked Mr. Randall's application on the grounds that there is "no scientific evidence" to support his claims that the drug is vital to save his sight.

Yet the US Department of Health, Education and Welfare in 1976 reported to Congress that marijuana created a "consistent . . . clinically significant

reduction in intraocular pressure".

In the past year, 14 states have passed laws legalising marijuana for health research, specifically for glaucoma and cancer patients.

Mr. Randall, a speech professor in Washington, said he first discovered the therapeutic effects of marijuana in 1973, when, after smoking two 'joints', the white rings clouded his vision disappeared.

Two years later he was arrested and charged with growing marijuana in his home.

After a series of court cases, the Government settled out of court and Mr. Randall became the first person for 40 years to obtain marijuana through the conventional doctor-patient-pharmacy routine.

Mr. Randall has been invited to Australia by the Cannabis Research Foundation, to speak in Adelaide on the therapeutic use of marijuana.

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AUSTRALIA

NEW TRIAL FOR DRUG DEALER RECEIVING LONGEST SENTENCE

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 11 Aug 79 p 10

[Text] An appeal court yesterday ordered a new trial for Domonick Mancini (25), who is serving 15 1/2 years' gaol for dealing in heroin.

Mancini's sentence was Australia's longest for a drug offender because he was given no minimum term.

A Sydney drug dealer was sentenced to 20 years' gaol last year, but was allowed a minimum of 10 years to be served before parole.

The Court of Criminal Appeal decided yesterday that the judge's direction at Mancini's trial in February was unsatisfactory.

Two of Mancini's eight grounds of appeal together had involved a substantial miscarriage of justice, not necessarily in the result but in the manner in which the result was achieved.

The safe course was to set aside the verdicts, quash Mancini's conviction on four charges and order a retrial.

Mancini was convicted by a Supreme Court jury on February 26 of possessing heroin with intent to sell or supply it and supplying heroin at Applecross on September 14, and two similar counts at Perth on October

ber 20.

He was sentenced by Mr Justice Jones on April 5.

It was argued for Mancini before the appeal court on July 13 and 16 that the trial judge had wrongly admitted into evidence a tape recording and transcript of a conversation between a witness and Mancini.

RECORDER

The tape recorder had been strapped by detectives to the back of the witness, an associate of Mancini, who had been arrested on a drug charge and agreed to cooperate with the police to trap Mancini.

Mr Justice Wickham said—with Mr Justice Lavan and Mr Justice Smith agreeing—that the tape recording was admissible, if it was properly proved.

After proof there might be a wide range of matters that could affect the weight of the material.

However, in this case the tape and the transcript were admissible and this ground of appeal could not be sustained.

ained.

Four other grounds of appeal were dismissed.

But a ground which succeeded was the claim that the trial judge misdirected the jury on the standard of proof in defining "reasonable doubt" as "nagging doubt."

DIRECTION

The other ground allowed was that the trial judge wrongly directed the jury in relation to which of the witnesses might fall into the category of accomplices and as to the necessity for and meaning of corroboration of the witnesses.

In the end a kind of warning was given, but it was not given in adequate terms, Mr Justice Wickham said.

The case against Mancini, if a proper direction on corroboration had been given, would have been much weaker than it must have appeared to the jury without that proper direction.

(Before Mr Justice Lavan, Mr Justice Wickham and Mr Justice Smith. Mr J. D. Tenby for Mancini. Mr K. H. Parker, QC, and Mr L. B. Robbins for the Crown).

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AUSTRALIA

THIRTY APPEAR ON DRUGS CHARGE AFTER QUEENSLAND RAID

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 14 Aug 79 p 13

[Text] Surfers' Paradise.--Thirty men and women appeared in Southport Court yesterday on drug-related charges after one of Queensland's largest co-ordinated police raids.

Many of the charges involved the possession or sale of heroin.

Detectives from the Gold Coast, Brisbane and Ipswich joined for the raid which began early on Saturday and continued throughout the week-end.

Magistrates, Mr. J. Rutherford and Mr. L. O'Connell took almost three-and-a-half hours to process charges.

Those charged are: Deborah Joy Hunston, 22, Surfers' Paradise, part-time chef (formerly of Melbourne), 5 charges, bail refused, remanded to appear in Southport Court in seven days. Helen Josephine Martin, 20, Surfers' Paradise (formerly of Melbourne) 2 charges, convicted and fined \$320, in default 6 weeks' jail.

Remands

Denise Lawton Shulle, 27, Mermaid Beach, barmaid, two charges, remanded seven days, surety bail \$10,500.

Craig Norman Trudgett, 25, electrical contractor, one charge, remanded seven days, \$400 bail.

Kelran Patrick Pepyat, 22, Surfers' Paradise, unemployed, five charges, remanded seven days, bail refused.

Kerryn Lee Anderson, 19, Southport, unemployed, three charges, remanded seven days, bail \$2450, surety \$2000.

Neil Richard Brooks, 30, Broadbeach, unemployed salesman, two charges, remanded seven days, bail refused.

Peter David Roberts, 24, spray painter, Burleigh, four charges, remanded seven days, bail \$900, sureties \$500.

Susan Louise Thompson, 20, Isle of Capri, unemployed, two charges, pleaded guilty, fined \$400, 14 days to pay.

Grant Douglas Redman, 23, Broadbeach, unemployed, two charges, remanded seven days, bail and sureties, \$12,000.

Graeme Ernest Halliday, 23, unemployed, one charge, pleaded guilty, fined \$50.

Rob Docen, 22, Broadbeach, laborer, one charge, pleaded guilty, fined \$50.

Neil Damian Carey, 24, Burleigh, laborer, two charges, pleaded guilty, fined \$350, in default six weeks' jail.

Rodney Baker Redman, 28, Broadbeach, unemployed, one charge, pleaded guilty, sentenced to four months' imprisonment.

Vella Elena Smith, 40, Burleigh Waters, one charge, fined \$200 in default four weeks.

Catherine Marie Kelly, 23, Miami, two charges, convicted, fined \$400 in default six weeks' jail.

Jeffrey Tom Rowlands, 23, Miami, one charge, \$100 or 10 days.

Roderick Victor Lather, Mermaid Beach, one charge, fined \$250 or five weeks' jail.

Phillip John Highden-Smith, Hamilton, one charge, fined \$130 or two weeks' jail.

Jermey James Claridge, 19, Kirra, one charge, fined \$375 or six weeks' jail.

Fines

Roderick Andrew Ashman, 26, Burleigh Heads, two charges, fined \$500 or two weeks' jail.

Leslie Anne Rickie, 23,
Burleigh Heads, three
charges, fined \$350 or
seven weeks' jail.

Steven Ronald Gra-
ham, 21, Coolangatta,
two charges, fined \$425
or nine weeks' jail.

Bruce Graham, 28,
Southport, one charge,
fined \$150 or three weeks'
jail.

Linda Sue McIntyre,
17, Southport, fined \$25
or five days' jail.

Nicholas Richard
Duckworth, Mt. Tambo-
rine, three charges, re-
manded for 14 days.

John Anthony Fraser,
Miami, two charges, re-
manded on bail for 14
days.

Jonathon Smith, 22,
Southport, three charges,
remanded for 14 days.

Jan Maree Harvey, 26,
Southport, bar attend-
ant, six charges, re-
manded seven days, sure-
ty bail \$48,000.

Desmond George Nel-
son, 23, Nobby Beach, one
charge, \$150 or 14 days'
jail.

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AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

NAT YOUNG CHARGES DISMISSED--Sydney.--Charges alleging that former surfing champion Robert Harold (Nat) Young allowed his farm to be used for growing marihuana were dismissed in the Grafton Court of Petty Sessions yesterday. Young had pleaded not guilty. Magistrate N. C. Pepper found that police had not established a prima facie case against the former world champion surfer. [Excerpt] [Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 14 Aug 79 p 2]

MORPHINE, COCAINE STOLEN--Rockhampton.--Thieves stole a large quantity of morphine, cocaine and other drugs from E. J. Brock, chemist, of Musgrave Street, North Rockhampton, at the week-end. [Text] [Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 14 Aug 79 p 13]

GUNMAN ON DRUG SPREE--Sydney.--The man police shot dead after a three-hour siege yesterday spent a \$27,000 inheritance on heroin in seven months, police said last night. Gordon Pierce Thomas was killed by a special police officer after he fired more than 100 shots at police, reporters and residents, from a flat in the harborside suburb of Rose Bay. [Excerpt] [Melbourne THE AGE in English 8 Aug 79 p 1]

MARIHUANA GROWER FINED--A man who grew 600 marihuana plants in his parents' backyard was fined \$2,000 in Wollongong District Court yesterday. Police claimed the plants would have had a street value of \$100,000 if fully cropped. Robert Talebski, 23, a shop assistant, of Allan Street, Port Kembla, pleaded guilty to supplying Indian hemp at Wollongong between October 25, 1977 and November 26, 1977, and to supplying it at Port Kembla on December 3, 1977, in that he possessed an amount in excess of the prescribed quantity. Judge Gee placed him on a five-year good-behavior bond. [Text] [Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 8 Aug 79 p 3]

MODEL ON HEROIN CHARGES--Sydney.--A 22-year-old model appeared in a Sydney court yesterday charged with possessing heroin with a street value of more than \$200,000. Lenore Yvonne Marshall, of Palm Beach, Queensland, was alleged to have possessed heroin in Sydney on Monday. Mr. G. Scraggs, for the Crown, told the magistrate, Mr. Smyth, that when Miss Marshall arrived at Sydney Airport from Bali, about 250 grams of heroin were found in the speaker boxes of a stereo system she was carrying. Mr Smyth refused bail, saying the allegations were serious. [Text] [Melbourne THE AGE in English 8 Aug 79 p 12]

MARIHUANA TO HEROIN--A man who sold heroin to an undercover policeman was sentenced in the Criminal Court yesterday to three years' jail. The Chief Justice (Sir Charles Wanstall) said Paul Francis Crosisca was a classic example of a young man who graduated from marihuana to heroin use. Crosisca, 22, formerly of Quinn Street, Toowong, pleaded guilty to four charges of having sold heroin, between December 18 and 29 last year. Sir Charles said Crosisca sold heroin to an undercover policeman, whose main purpose had been to try to catch Crosisca's supporter. Sir Charles said he accepted that Crosisca had dealt in heroin solely to support his own heroin addiction and without making much profit. He said Crosisca started using marihuana in 1976 and was addicted to heroin 12 months later. [Excerpts] [Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 8 Aug 79 p 18]

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BURMA

BRIEFS

OPIUM SEIZED, ADDICTS ARRESTED--Mergui, 28 Aug--Mergui city police station officer U Nyunt Tin and Subinspector U Myo Myint, together with a police squad, yesterday searched the residence of U Ba Shin in Myitnge Ward, and found U Ba Shin and Maung Thein of Tatpyin Ward smoking opium. Also seized from the two men were 1 pipe for smoking opium, 20 small packets of cooked opium and 17 items of opium smoking paraphernalia. Charges have been filed under Sections 6.B and 10.B of the Narcotic Drugs Law. [Text] [Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 5 Sep 79 p 7 BK]

COUPLE JAILED 5 YEARS--Martaban, 27 Aug--Township people's court No 3 chaired by U Myo Aung yesterday sentenced 5 years imprisonment each to Ko Myint Lwin, alias San Hoke, and his wife Ma Than Nwe under Sections 6.B and 10.B of the Narcotic Drugs Law. The case was brought to trial when on 6 July 1978, ward people's councillor U Ye Lwin with the assistance from the people's police force raided Ko Myint Lwin's house after receiving information that he was using and selling heroin in Panchard Ward, near the Martaban railways station. During the raid, Ko Myint Lwin and his wife were found using heroin. Also found at the house were some heroin and penicillin bottles for putting heroin. [Text] [Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 1 Sep 79 p 8 BK]

DRUG SUPPRESSION DRIVE--Kyunhla, 6 Aug--Under the guidance of the Sagaing Division People's Council and Kyunhla Township Party Unit, Kyunhla township people's council has formed four action teams to eliminate drug dealers and addicts in the township. One of the teams led by U Yi, township people's council chairman, U Kyaw Myint, council executive in charge of security, and U Sein Hla U, police station officer, has been touring village tracts since 4 August to arrest drug dealers and addicts and to file charges against them. Between March and August, 32 drug users and 38 cases have been brought to trial. Of the 38 cases, four cases are for violation of Section 10.B and the rest are for violation of Section 6.B of the Narcotic Drugs Law. [Text] [Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 7 Sep 79 p 7 BK]

TWO ADDICTS ARRESTED--Moulmein, 4 Sep--Moulmein's Shwetaung ward people's council secretary U Hla Tun and a party, and a crime prevention squad from Moulmein police station at 1100 yesterday raided the residence of U Sho Maung at No 18.A, Central Lane, Shwetaung Ward, and found Chit Swe and Sulu who were in possession of three cigarettes laced with heroin, a hypodermic syringe and needle, a cup used for dissolving heroin and a small packet of heroin. Sulu, who had injected some heroin, was found unconscious. Moulmein city police station has filed charges under the Narcotic Drugs Law. [Text] [Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 7 Sep 79 pp 7, 8 BK]

HEROIN IN PENICILLIN BOTTLE--Homalin, 20 Aug--Acting on information provided by a working people, a team of policemen led by Sub-Inspector of Police U Kyaw Maung of Myoma Police Station searched Maung Tin Myint alias Laung Ko Tin of Monywa at Naukmajit Ward in Homlin, Sagaing Division and seized some heroin in five penicillin bottles hidden in his underpants. Later, Maung Tin Myint threw away the five bottles of heroin. However, the policemen were able to recover one of the bottles. Charges have been filed against him under Section 6 (B) and 10 (B) of the Narcotic Drugs Law as well as under Section 353/20 [as published] for destroying evidence. [Text] [Rangoon LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN in Burmese 1 Sep 79 p 4 BK]

TWO NABBED FOR DRUG OFFENSE--Taunggyi, 31 Aug--A police party from Taunggyi Myoma Police Station arrested two men who were reportedly injecting heroin on drug addicts for a fee yesterday. The two men were caught near Nyaungshwe lake in Kanshay Ward here at 3 pm yesterday. They were reportedly waiting for drug addicts to inject heroin. Six packets of heroin valued at K 10 each, a plastic hypodermic syringe and K 380 believed to be proceeds from the sale of heroin were seized from them. Police are taking action against them under Section 14 (d) (failure to register for treatment) and 10 (b) (sale) of the Narcotic Drugs Law. [Text] [Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 10 Sep 79 p 8]

OPIUM SEIZED--Rangoon, 7 Sep--U Tin Shwe (49) of Khanaungto village was caught with a packet of opium residue at the corner of 20th and Maha Bandoola Streets by a crime prevention squad of the Rangoon Division PPF yesterday evening. Latha police are taking action against him under Sections 6(b) (possession) and 14(d) (failure to register for treatment) of the Narcotic Drugs Law. Similarly two packets of opium residue were seized from U Shwe Ku (58) of Kwinma village, Hlegu Township in the back-lane between 19th and 20th Streets by a police party. Madu Rahman (38) who was found together with U Shwe Ku was also arrested. [Text] [Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 10 Sep 79 p 8]

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JAPAN

MARIHUANA, STIMULANT USERS DRIVERS' LICENSES SUSPENDED

Tokyo THE DAILY YOMIURI in English 4 Sep 79 p 2

[Text]

The Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) Monday suspended the driver's licenses of 29 habitual users of stimulant drugs or hemp for 180 days.

All 29 have records of previous arrests on suspicion violating the Stimulant Drugs Control Law of other laws, and most are members of gangs.

The MPD said it resorted to this forcible step to prevent habitual drug users from causing accidents under the influence of drugs at a time when the number of those who use stimulants or hemp has been increasing year by year.

This is the first time that the MPD has suspended the driver's licenses of habitual drug users.

From among 1,084 persons who were arrested for using or possessing stimulant drugs, hemp or narcotics from April through July this year, the MPD first chose those who had driver's licenses.

The MPD then selected those who were placed on probation or those whom prosecutors had not indicted, on the grounds that it was meaningless to suspend the licenses of those who were serving terms.

The 29 persons are those who have used drugs or possessed them for the purpose of using them twice or more in the past six months and who police believe will repeatedly use them.

According to the Road Traffic Law, police can revoke the driver's licenses of addicts of narcotics or stimulants, but no provisions in the law provide that police can revoke or suspend the licenses of people only because they habitually use drugs.

In April, however, the National Police Agency (NPA) decided to apply Article 103 of the law to control habitual drug users.

The article stipulates that police can suspend the driver's licenses of a person when it is feared that his driving will cause an extreme danger.

Police in Hokkaido, Iwate-ken and other prefectural districts had previously suspended the licenses of a total 49 drug users, but this is the first time that as many as 29 persons have been punished at a time.

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BRAZIL

MARANHAO CALLED NATION'S MARIHUANA PARADISE

Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 9 Aug 79 p 4 Section B

[Text] According to the police, the planting of marihuana is so widespread in Maranhao that for every foot of babassu palm there is a foot of the toxicant. It is planted in the state's 129 municipalities as well as in most of the backyards of the island of Sao Luis. Formerly restricted to unoccupied land or to dense forests to avoid repressive action by the authorities, plantations now occupy so-called fertile soil, such as the marshy borders of small and large rivers and creeks in receding periods. This is true to the extent that Maranhao is now considered by federal narcotics agents as the major Brazilian marihuana storehouse, supplying more than 70 percent of the domestic market as well as exports.

Last week 64 agents of the Maranhao division of the Federal Police partially surrounded 28 municipalities in the Maranhao lowlands, setting up headquarters for the operation in the municipality of Pindare-Mirim 252 km southeast of Sao Luis.

The agents spent 28 days hidden in the forests and succeeded in seizing about 400 tons of marihuana: 365,034 kg still in the green-leaf stage and 1,870 ready for consumption in domestic and foreign markets. At current prices this quantity would bring in 5 billion cruzeiros.

According to Commissioner Newton Vieira Lima, coordinator of the Guaribas operation, this police action did not, in reality, reach the major centers. For example, in Vitorino Freire, areas known to be large producers were not checked out, as access to that area is difficult and dangerous. In addition to the agents' lack of transportation, the planters and traffickers' lookouts placed deadly booby traps to prevent the police from reaching them. Last year an agent was killed by a 20-caliber rifle bullet triggered when he crossed the contraption's line of fire.

Maranhao marihuana intended for export goes directly from the production sources to Belem, in Para, and from there it is sent to the Guianas, where it is redistributed for sale in various countries, including the United States. Up to now the authorities have not succeeded in establishing the traffic's route and believe that there are highways and large hidden paths through the forests through which Maranhao's production flows.

Not all Maranhao's marihuana follows those clandestine routes. Some of it, intended for the domestic market, is transported via federal highways packed in secret compartments in passenger automobiles, preferably of the Maverick type because of its roomier trunk, or in transport trucks mixed with the hay for the cattle or hidden under the gasoline tank.

In the Guianas the marihuana gives rise to other illegal trade: that of smuggling, as it is exchanged for whiskey and household appliances which enter the country by the same route used to ship the "grass."

In Commissioner Lima's opinion, although the police is in possession of all those facts, it has not yet succeeded in unraveling the tangled ball of yarn, that is, the organization which is exploiting the marihuana traffic in the country. The leaders, people of social and political importance, never appear. They generally operate through agents, and the agents are careful not to be seen in their contacts with the planters. The latter are basically poor and ingenuous farmers who give up conventional crops to plant marihuana, inasmuch as this offers them better living conditions or more equitable payment for their work.

The police have a valuable ally in their efforts to eradicate marihuana from Maranhao--namely, the landowners who are developing their individual estates. Their motive for collaborating is not that of helping the authorities to achieve their objectives but rather one of defending their own interests. It is they who ferret out and denounce marihuana plantings, as the dispersion of labor in those areas is causing them problems.

It is presently difficult to obtain laborers to work the crops by paying them in accordance with traditional and still current systems: a third, half or ox yoke. The traffickers finance everything; they furnish the seeds and, during the cycle between sowing and harvesting, a period of 15 weeks, supply the growers with rice, flour, kerosene, salt, sugar and tobacco. At harvest time, in addition to their wages, the growers receive 2,500 cruzeiros per kilogram of marihuana foliage, whereas a 60-kg sack of rice does not cost more than 120 cruzeiros and is subject to state tax.

As the problem has strong social overtones, the Federal Police continue to act with leniency, since they recognize that the grower in this illegal process is naive or an individual without future prospects who is making this choice to maintain his family.

The growing of marihuana is almost cost-free. Planters choose specific sites, preferably those having an abundance of humidity and heat, clear the land and sow the seeds. The poisonous content of marihuana is so great that it is not attacked by insects or caterpillars. "Not even donkeys are able to eat the leaves," it is said.

Planting occurs twice a year: during the winter and in the period when the water recedes. Marihuana grown during the latter period brings a higher price because it has a finer and smaller stem and its leaves have a greater amount of THC--tetrahydrocannabinol, the active substance.

That is why growers do not plant traditional crops in large and small dried-up stream beds. Besides the fact that marihuana brings a better price and always has an available market, it is during that period that quotations are at their highest.

When the Federal Police began the project of eradicating marihuana from Maranhao, they found large plantings along the major highways. Many growers were not cultivating marihuana to promote the illicit trade but because it is also used in the rural pharmaceutical sector as an effective remedy against colic and other intestinal complications.

Growers who devote their efforts exclusively to the cultivation of marihuana do not plant that crop in an isolated manner. In stream beds they combine it with tomatoes to throw the police off their track, and in higher places with manioc--the only tuber which resists the proximity of marihuana roots.

In Sao Luis it is cultivated every month of the year in greenhouses or backyards for consumption by local addicts. It is on that island that the Federal Police make the greatest number of investigations involving marihuana growers, and they believe that there are few backyards where the plant is not grown.

However, the large plantings are located in reservations inhabited by natives, where the Federal Police are not allowed to operate without prior permission by FUNAI [National Indian Foundation]. Based on information received from individuals who were in the area, agent Andre Ribeiro Jr. states emphatically that it is possible to seize more than 600 tons of marihuana in the Guajajaras Indian reservations in Sao Pedro dos Cacetes between the municipalities of Barra do Corda and Imperatriz. The natives consume and plant on a large scale without any restriction.

This month the Maranhao division of the Federal Police will bring this information to the attention of FUNAI in Brasilia and will ask permission to raid those reservations where, the agents are certain, they will find the largest marihuana plantings in the state.

Another of the police's major allies in the fight against the growing and trafficking of marihuana in Maranhao is dissension among the traffickers themselves. The narcotics gangs usually arm the planters so that they might protect their plantings from competitors at harvest time. When there is an attack, the one being attacked denounces the attacker to the authorities.

In the Guaribas operation federal agents found large storage sheds built for the storage of marihuana in Vitorino Freire, Paulo Ramos, Altamira, Santa Luzia, Santa Ines, Moncao, Grajau, Amarante do Piaui, Joao Lisboa, Imperatriz, Barra do Corda, Lago dos Pedras, Esperantinopolis, Barreirinha, Bom Jardim, Pio IX and Caxias. In Paulo Ramos an enormous silo was used to keep "grass" already prepared for consumption. There alone 1,870 kg were seized, and in two existing plantings in the vicinity the police destroyed more than 300,000 marihuana plants.

About 20 large-caliber rifles and revolvers were confiscated from lookouts in the service of the traffickers' planters. Regardless of the extent of the operation and the material results obtained, only five individuals are being investigated. However, the federal authorities believe that they are only small fish in the large network which supplies the Brazilian drug market with marihuana. The police did not reveal the identity of the suspects in view of the fact that "this might prejudice further developments of the investigations by forewarning the leaders of the organization."

Marihuana intended for export is subjected to an elaborate packaging process to decrease its dimensional volume. Federal agents seized a number of metallic presses used to compress the dried leaves, which are first covered with a light coat of honey; this does not harm the THC content and makes it possible for the leaves to adhere during compression.

According to Federal Police agents, the distribution of the marihuana on the domestic market is achieved through a network set up in the country's principal capitals. It begins with Teresina, in Piaui, which is a natural corridor; from there it is dispersed in Fortaleza, Recife, Salvador, Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo. And by another route, via Goiania, the center of operations is Brasilia, whence it is redistributed to Minas Gerais and the interior of Sao Paulo with the use of federal highways.

Brasilia, of limited population density but the center of the country's decisions, is now the largest center for the consumption of Maranhao marihuana.

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BRAZIL

RESULTS OF ANONYMOUS CALLS ON DRUG TRAFFICKING

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 6 Aug 79 p 8

[Article by Edson Flosi]

[Text] Since connecting telephone number 227-1717 to a tape recorder to receive denunciations about the trafficking and use of narcotics in Sao Paulo, the Narcotics Division [DE] of the DEIC (Criminal Investigations Department) has listened to an average of 30 telephone calls a day.

Although at first questioned, this measure is giving results which Commissioner Nestor Sampaio Penteado, who directs the DE, considers excellent. He relates how an anonymous denunciation resulted in the seizure of 40 kg of marihuana:

"A man's voice called attention to a network of marihuana traffickers. We arrested a woman with 40 kg of the drug. The investigations are continuing, and it is possible that the entire network of traffickers will be broken up within a short time."

It has been exactly 1 week since number 227-1717 was installed to receive anonymous denunciations. Whoever calls this number at any hour of the day or night hears a taped female voice which always says the same thing:

"Narcotics Division. This is a recording. After the signal you will have 1 minute to state your problem. If necessary, dial again."

After a sharp and brief sound, which is the signal, the complaining caller can speak for 1 minute, and when the time is up the telephone disconnects automatically. Commissioner Penteado explains:

"Very seldom does the denunciation exceed the allotted time; but if the caller has many details to give, he has only to dial again and continue speaking. However, up to now this has happened only twice."

Kepercussion

Commissioner Penteadó took over the DE leadership 3 months ago, and when he installed telephone number 227-1717 and revealed its purpose he was greatly criticized, even in police circles, although he was also very much applauded. He states:

"They spoke of lack of ethics, of time wasted on anonymous denunciations; but in the field of trafficking in and use of drugs there is no other way. In truth, it is necessary for the people to denounce traffickers and addicts, which is recognizably dangerous. It is precisely to preclude the risk of reprisals by traffickers and addicts that the DE is protecting the denouncer with anonymity."

Every 2 hours a DE employee changes the tape and makes a separate typed record of the complaints received. The complaints, submitted in two copies, are immediately examined by the commissioner, who, backed by 30 years of experience, the duration of his police career, picks out what he considers in most urgent need of investigation. He then calls Commissioner Marco Antonio Martins Ribeiro de Campos and, in discussion with him, goes over case by case.

Commissioner Ribeiro de Campos subsequently assigns the cases to one, two or more investigators, giving them the necessary funds for the action to be taken. Commissioner de Campos explains:

"Naturally, we do not use all the DE's human, mechanical and technical resources to check out the anonymous complaints, but, after careful selection, some are investigated. This does not prevent the police from continuing to do what they have always done: making a traditional investigation based on one or more clues and often leading to the imprisonment of traffickers and the seizure of drugs. However, there is no doubt that the anonymous complaint is also a clue and, not rarely, one of great value."

Selection

Commissioner Penteadó's career is divided as follows: 10 years of police work in the interior (various cities, such as Rio Claro, Mogi Mirim and Itapira), 10 years in the DE (from 1959 to 1969) and 10 years in the Theft Division (which he left 3 months ago to return to the DE).

During the 10 years he spent in the DE he worked under the leadership of Celso Teles, who is now commissioner general of the Sao Paulo police, the highest office in that field. Considered one of the country's foremost authorities in the narcotics sector, Celso Teles supported the idea of installing telephone number 227-1717, with one requirement, however, that of carefully investigating anonymous complaints before taking action in order to avoid any injustice. Commissioner Penteadó states:

"The key to the problem lies in that selection and subsequent thorough investigation. After all, never has any police official ignored a complaint, anonymous or not. And I know very well that an anonymous denunciation is as practical as it is effective; but personal vengeance is also to be condemned. Therefore, the DE will not arrest anyone or even harass anyone by taking immediate action on the basis of an anonymous complaint. However, once convinced as the result of an investigation, it will take action in case the one denounced is, in fact, trafficking in drugs. As for addicts, the DE does not consider them criminals, unlike traffickers, who really are criminals and of the worst kind. When the person denounced is only an addict, he is treated by the DE as a sick person."

Denunciations

Telephone number 227-1717 is not recording denunciations only. There have also been pranks, swearing and even one case in which a group of youngsters was unjustly denounced. Commissioner Penteado relates:

"The youngsters played ball every afternoon, naturally making noise and disturbing the complainer. An investigation was made of which the youngsters knew nothing, as the police had observed the incident from a distance."

Commissioner Penteado further explains that the complaints are carefully investigated especially to protect the complainer, who, despite being anonymous, still runs the risk of being subsequently identified by the drug traffickers or addicts. The commissioner continues:

"There was a case of a newspaper vendor denounced by a person who was, to be sure, near his newspaper stand. After 2 days of investigation, the police confirmed that the trafficking really was being carried on at the newspaper stand; however, they did not arrest the vendor at that location. They waited, and when the vendor was far away from his stand one day, he was arrested. He had a kilogram of marihuana wrapped in newspaper. Thus, arrested far from the area in which the trafficking was being done, he was certain not to suspect anyone living close by or any of his customers."

Telephone

Praised by some, but accused by others, of having institutionalized anonymous denunciations, Commissioner Penteado defends himself against the latter by stating:

"There is no other way; either the people must help or the police will be powerless to do anything about the problem of the trafficking in and use of drugs in Sao Paulo. To be sure, the greater of the two problems is that of trafficking, for without that, drug usage would decrease or disappear. And the drug traffic is widespread. Previously there were big traffickers whose imprisonment greatly affected the market. Now it is different: the big traffickers, who were few in number, were replaced by hundreds of thousands of little traffickers scattered throughout the city. We need an army to ferret them out, and that is why I am appealing to the people to help the Narcotics Division."

Through telephone number 227-1717, Commissioner Penteado also received an appeal from five families in each of which there was young addict. He relates what is being done:

"I have just arranged to have those youths interned in sanatoriums in the interior of the state where I was previously commissioner. They are sanatoriums which I even helped build. That of Mogi Mirim alone took two of the five addicts, who I hope will be rehabilitated."

Disclosure

Since Commissioner Penteado took over the leadership of the DE, the number of arrests has increased from 40 to 70 a month; most of the traffickers went to prison, and in 3 months a ton of marihuana was seized, as well as 3,000 drug ampoules. The commissioner intends to make the fight against drug trafficking the last and greatest effort of his career:

"I have a family, a wife and two children. Previously I slept late, read until late every night. I like my family and books and used to read everything: philosophy, sociology, politics. I now see that everything is changing in my life. I am not spending as much time with my family and read very little except books which can help me fight the drug traffic. It is a very serious and dangerous problem which principally attacks our youth but threatens our entire society. I have organized and promoted conferences on drugs and have oriented speakers, generally doctors and professors. They are capable individuals but not policemen and can therefore not appreciate the problem from that aspect. Conferences on drugs must be prepared with great care, for they are two-edged knives: they can arouse curiosity among the youth just as they can cause youth to abandon drugs. Furthermore, everyone must help fight drugs: parents, teachers, doctors and people in general."

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BRAZIL

CAPTURE OF INTERNATIONAL DRUG-TRAFFICKING RING ANNOUNCED

Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 9 Aug 79 p 18

[Text] The Federal Police announced the capture yesterday of an international gang of drug traffickers who have been operating on the Rio-United States-France-England route. One kilo of 95-percent pure Bolivian cocaine was seized when the group--an Englishman, an American woman, a Frenchman and a Brazilian married couple--was arrested.

The traffickers were arrested at 14 J. J. Seabra Street, house No 4, in the Jardim Botânico district. The cocaine was supplied by a Bolivian dealer for \$10,000 (about 270,000 cruzeiros) and resold abroad for \$50,000 (about 1.35 million cruzeiros). The drug was transported by Jane de Carvalho, Brazilian, 25 years old, who carried the cocaine in hollowed-out books, shoes and sandals.

Hollowed-out Books

Agents of the drug division of the Federal Police, acting on an anonymous tip, were able to infiltrate the gang. After several weeks they caught them in flagrante.

Constantine Benckendorff, English, 37 years old, the gang leader who received the drug from Bolivia; Lynne Ellen Leitman, American, 32 years old; Nicolas Regnier, French, 34 years old, responsible for sending the cocaine to Paris; Jose Edmundo Ramos Panisset, who induced young people to carry the drug to the United States; and Jane de Carvalho, who delivered cocaine principally to New York and Miami, were arrested at the J.J. Seabra Street address. All the foreigners had permanent visas in their passports.

In addition to the kilo of cocaine, packaged in condoms, the police seized 4 precision balances, a roll of laminated paper and 7 books, each of about 1,000 pages, whose pages were cut out to make the books into containers.

12116
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BRAZIL

TRAFFICKERS' ARREST UNCOVERS INTERNATIONAL DRUG RING

Kilogram of Cocaine Seized

Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 15 Aug 79 p 26

[Text] Drug traffickers Moacir Bueno de Paula, Jose Antonio Goncalves and Roberto Akina Miyasato were arrested in flagrante last Monday with a kilogram of cocaine. Their arrest led agents of the Political and Social Police Division [DPPS] to the discovery of an international gang operating on the Bolivia-Brazil axis which was supplying Rio and Sao Paulo with pure cocaine from Puerto Suarez.

Moacir de Paula was interrogated yesterday by Inspector Evaldo Nunes of the DPPS. At first he denied being a drug trafficker and declared that he had been used only to make deliveries, but he finally admitted trafficking in cocaine on a large scale and supplying the Rio and Sao Paulo markets on a weekly schedule. The police already knew that the traffickers were in Rio last week and that they delivered 1-1/2 kg of cocaine in the northern zone.

Gang Broken Up

Based on the depositions already received, the agents of the DPPS know that the arrested drug traffickers stole automobiles in Sao Paulo and took them to Corumba, Mato Grosso, on the border between Bolivia and Brazil. This is where Roberto Akina lived, on the corner of Ladeira Santa Emilia and Ladeira do Comercio, on the banks of the Paraguay River.

At the border the cars were handed over to a Bolivian whose name the traffickers claimed not to know, and they received in return 3 kg of cocaine. One kg was seized by the police when the traffickers were arrested. A trafficker in the northern zone received 1-1/2 kg of cocaine, and the police do not know to whom the remaining 1/2 kg was delivered.

Contacts were made on Machado Coelho Street, in the Estacio district, in the red-light area, but since military policemen surrounded an automobile with DPPS agents there were problems, and the contacts were moved to the "President" service station at kilometer post one on the President Dutra

highway. Moacir, who owns a fish market in Corumba, told the police that the automobiles exchanged for cocaine in Bolivia entered that country without documentation and even without a bill of sale.

Interrogations are continuing in the DPPS, and the authorities are predicting new arrests within a few hours. The police already have a list of customers who were buying the drug.

Traffickers Give Police Cocaine

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese. 14 Aug 79 p 17

[Text] Drug traffickers Moacir Bueno de Paula, Roberto Akina Myazato, a Japanese, and Jose Antonio Goncalves were arrested yesterday by agents of the DPPS when they were trying to deliver a package of pure cocaine to some customers at the "President" service station at kilometer post one on the Dutra highway. They were confused as to the time the merchandise was to be delivered, the buyers did not show up, and they finally approached a policeman who pretended to be a trafficker.

The 90-percent pure cocaine was contained in a plastic bag in an Opala automobile, bearing Sao Paulo license plates No FJ-1785, in which they were traveling. Moacir and his companions finally confessed that they traded automobiles to a Bolivian in exchange for the drug on the banks of the Paraguay River, in Corumba, but they denied that the cars were stolen in Sao Paulo. They declared that this was the first time they had made such a trade.

Tipped off by an individual whose identity is being kept secret as a precaution, the DPPS agents arrived on the scene beforehand to make a search. Last Friday they witnessed a delivery made to a trafficker whose identity is being investigated and who is being sought. He received a package containing 2 kg of the drug at the same service station and paid 700,000 cruzeiros for it. The transaction was photographed by police officers Evaldo Viana, Nerval Fialho and Jair using a telephoto lens. As of that moment the police began to watch the service station.

The police officers found in the car plastic bags identical to the one which contained the drug, two small plastic shovels and even several checks made out to the bearer for a total amount in excess of 500,000 cruzeiros.

The cocaine was seized and sent to the laboratory of the Carlos Eboli Institute of Criminology for examination. As for the seized Opala, the police will request information from the Sao Paulo Secretariat of Security as to whether the car was stolen. The DPPS suspects that the gang led by Moacir, who calls himself a businessman, is delivering cars stolen in greater Sao Paulo to international traffickers who take the vehicles to other South American countries such as Bolivia.

The Cocaine Traffic

The gang leader and partner of those persons arrested with him is Moacir (38 years old, residing at 1084 Ordem e Progresso Avenue, Casa Verde district, Sao Paulo), who declares that he is a businessman and that he owns two fish markets. His main store is in Sao Paulo and he has a branch in Corumba. According to the Rio de Janeiro police, those markets are nothing but a front to cover the cocaine traffic carried on along the Mato Grosso-Rio de Janeiro axis by way of Sao Paulo. Jose Antonio, 26 years old, who also lives in the Casa Verde district at 50 Escolaque street, admits only to being the group's chauffeur. As far as Roberto Myazato is concerned, the police label him as the "matuto" of the gang. In the drug-traffic jargon this is the person who carries the drug from the seller to the buyer. Roberto, 36 years old, claims to be a fisherman and declares that he lives on the corner of Comercio Street and Ladeira Santa Emilia in Corumba.

Moacir revealed that the package of cocaine, valued at 150,000 cruzeiros, was given to him by a Bolivian in exchange for an Opala like the one in his possession and that they had been bought a few days before in Sao Paulo for 65,000 cruzeiros each.

The only female trafficker he admits to knowing is a woman named Joana, who lives in the Bolivian city of Puerto Suarez. He also informed the police that he had met the Bolivian from whom he got the cocaine (he doesn't know his name) through a lawyer named Alvaro who lives in Corumba. The police are of the opinion that this lawyer is probably connected with the international drug traffic, with a base of operations in Sao Paulo.



In the police station. From left to right: Moacir, Roberto and Jose Antonio.

12116

CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

WAR BETWEEN TRAFFICKERS ON BRAZIL-PARAGUAY BORDER REPORTED

Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 10 Aug 79 p 30

[Text] Dourados, Mato Grosso--A veritable war between gangs of drug traffickers is going on along the border between Brazil and Paraguay. The gang war is centered on the cities of Ponta Pora, on the Brazilian side, and Pedro Juan Caballero, capital of Amambay Department, in Paraguay. Bodies riddled with bullets, burned and cruelly cut with knives are continually being found along the sides of secondary roads surrounding the two cities.

The day before yesterday four bodies were found. All of them had been tortured with knives, two of them having had their throats cut. This has brought the total number of 10 in the last 5 days. The bodies were found beside the Ponta Pora-Antonio Joao road, near Terere plantation, on the Brazilian side.

As the bodies were in an advanced state of decomposition, the men of the Third Military Police Battalion, headquartered in Ponta Pora, resorted to local professionals, and the bodies were buried immediately, as it would have been impossible to move them to the local cemetery.

It was not possible to examine the bodies since, according to the police, the prevailing extreme heat was responsible for the bodies' being nearly decomposed. It could only be observed that the victims were well dressed and that their hair was dyed blond, probably with the intention of disguising them.

Marihuana the Cause

Because of the characteristics of these crimes, the police believe that a serious disagreement has cropped up between the gangs involved in the drug traffic, especially the marihuana traffic.

One of the causes of the new outbreak of this war may be the scarcity of the product on the market as a consequence of the recent crackdown by the government of Amambay Department in Paraguay. Tons of marihuana have been burned recently on the Paraguayan side. This fact has led to greater

competitiveness and a natural quarrel between the gangs which usually buy the drug in Paraguay and resell it in the large centers of consumption along the Rio-Sao Paulo axis.

Terror and fear once again reign all along the southern border of Mato Grosso as a result of the recent events involving the drug-trafficking gangs.

Attempted Murder

Augusto Nunes Sobringo, about 28 years old, domiciled in Presidente Prudente, Sao Paulo, was shot five times last night with a 38-caliber revolver near the Ponta Pora airport. The victim was considered to be right-hand man of Nelso Rossati, the late smuggling king, assassinated in June of last year.

The police divulged that the perpetrators of the attempted homicide were three men in a Volkswagen, who fled immediately after the attempt.

The late Rossati's "lieutenant" was taken to a hospital in Pedro Juan Caballero, in Paraguay, in serious condition.

12116
CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

POLICE ACTION ONLY NETS 10 PERCENT OF DRUGS

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 12 Aug 79 p 37

[Text] The combined action of the Federal Police and the state police forces is only able to seize, on the average, 10 percent of the toxic or stupefying substances that enter the country illegally, according to estimates of the Drug Repression Division of the DPF [Federal Police Department].

The 1978 report of that division indicates that one of the greatest problems is "the noticeable lowering of the age bracket of the users," and it concludes that this situation is "generating social, political, economic and psychological effects that are highly prejudicial to society."

Another point emphasized in the report is the spread of drug use, formerly limited almost exclusively to the large urban centers. The recognition of this fact has not been accompanied by any concomitant of suggesting solutions or prospects for better results in the fight against the drug traffic, although sources in the DPF believe that with more efficient control on the borders and a study of criminal records it will be possible to establish the connections of the international gangs, with positive effects on the consumption of drugs throughout the country.

Marihuana, the drug most used in Brazil, whose domestic production is concentrated almost exclusively in Maranhao and Pernambuco, comes from Paraguay "in large quantities. Paraguayan marihuana is very popular because of its excellent quality," according to the report. It enters Brazil through the states of Mato Grosso and Parana. The cocaine route extends from Bolivia to the states of Acre, Mato Grosso, Parana and the Territory of Rondonia. The barbiturate and amphetamine traffic originates in Argentina and Paraguay. These drugs enter the country along the borders of Rio Grande do Sul, Parana and Mato Grosso. LSD, whose use is declining at least on the statistical level, comes from the United States and Europe.

Two types of drugs have the authorities worried, because their use is difficult to control and because they have strong hallucinogenetic effects: these are substances used in veterinary medicine as exciters for bulls and stimulants for horses, which are now being used by young people, and mixtures of substances which may be bought individually in drugstores without restrictions.

Amounts of Drugs Seized

The total drug seizures carried out by the Federal Police and by the state secretariats of security in 1978 amounted to the following quantities: 273,000 kilos of marihuana; 23 kilos of hemp seeds; 87 kilos of cocaine; nearly 58,000 units of various psychotropic drugs; 542 ampules of "preventim"; 212 doses of LSD and small quantities of hashiss--7 grams; of coca leaves, 304 grams; amphetamine salts, 162 grams; and heroin, only 1 gram.

Most Addicts Men

The great majority of addicts and drug traffickers are male--90.77 percent--and only 9.23 percent are female. In spite of the fact that the smuggling routes show the characteristics of multinational drug operations, 1,583 of the people identified in police investigations, or 96.11 percent, are Brazilians. A total of 64 persons--3.84 percent--are foreigners.

Marihuana is the toxic substance whose use has been increasing significantly year after year. Most investigations deal with marihuana traffickers or users, although the report does not specify the drug whose sale or use prompts the investigation. There were 1,093 investigations in 1978 in which 1,647 persons were charged, including 1,173 traffickers and 474 users.

The number of persons involved was the largest since 1972, when 1,930 persons were accused, but the number shows practically no change since 1977, when the corresponding number was 1,578.

The amount of marihuana seized by the police between 1974 and 1978 has been increasing markedly, as can be seen in the following figures: in 1972, 1,654 kilos were seized; 4,052 kilos in 1973; 27,857 kilos in 1974; 60,305 kilos in 1975; 6,200 kilos in 1976; 91,152 kilos in 1977 and 273,206 kilos in 1978.

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CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

RESULTS OF 1978 DRUG CONTROL EFFORT REPORTED

Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 14 Aug 79 p 13

[Text] The Narcotics Division of the Federal Police Department [DPF] last year seized--in the entire nation--a total of 273 tons of marihuana, 87 kilograms of cocaine and 57,000 units of narcotic medicines (in dragees or ampoules) such as Pervitin and Stenamine. Other small quantities of drugs were also seized: 10 grams of heroin, 212 doses of LSD, 300 dried coca leaves and 22 kilograms of marihuana seed.

These statistics are contained in a report published recently by the DPF, which attributed the success of its effort to collaboration with the Narcotics Division of the respective Secretariats of Public Security (one in each state). The largest seizure occurred last May in Maranhao State, at which time DPF agents discovered 200 tons of marihuana cached in the storehouses of a certain plantation.

Report

"Virtually all the states of Brazil produce and consume marihuana," the DPF report states, "and a great many of them produce solely for local consumption. Other states such as Maranhao and Pernambuco," the report continues, "supply other centers of consumption on a large scale as well as supplying their own local markets. Marihuana is the most heavily used drug in Brazil. The marihuana that is imported, especially that from Paraguay, enters Brazil across the borders of Mato Grosso and Parana."

With respect to cocaine the DPF report states: "Coming from Bolivia and Peru, it enters Brazil through Mato Grosso, Rondonia, Acre, Parana and Amazonas. In terms of its total consumption in Brazil, cocaine ranks second only to marihuana. Because cocaine is an expensive drug, the highest incidence of its use is concentrated in the class that has the greatest purchasing power, which in turn is concentrated in the southern part of the country."

Statistics

Illustrated with a series of graphics, the DPF report shows that during 1978 a total of 1,647 flagrante delicto arrests were made, and investigations initiated, throughout Brazil, of which total 1,173 (71.22 percent) involved drug traffickers and 474 (28.78 percent) drug addicts.

Of the 1,647 persons prosecuted subsequent to their apprehension flagrante delicto or indicted as a result of investigations, 1,495 (90.77 percent) were men and 152 (9.23 percent) women. With respect to nationality, 1,583 (96.11 percent) were Brazilians and 64 (3.89 percent) foreign nationals.

The DPF figures also reveal that drug seizures are increasing substantially every year, perhaps as a consequence of the increase in the drug traffic and in drug use. In 1972 the DPF seized a total of 2 tons of marihuana; in 1975, 60 tons; and in 1978, 273 tons.

Narcotics

The fight against the drug traffic, however, is waged by other police sectors such as the Narcotics Division of the Secretariat of Public Security of each state in Brazil. In Sao Paulo State during the first half of this year the Narcotics Division of the Secretariat of Public Security seized 1 ton of marihuana and 3,000 ampoules or dragees of narcotic medicines (Pervitin and Stenamine).

Because marihuana is the cheapest of the narcotics it is also the most heavily trafficked. One kilogram of this drug costs 1,000 cruzeiros at the point of production but returns 10,000 cruzeiros to the trafficker, who divides it into 100 small 10-gram packets which he then sells for 100 cruzeiros apiece (from 10 grams of marihuana the addict can make three or four cigarettes).

Cocaine is one of the most expensive of drugs: 1 gram, which is sold to the addict for 2,000 cruzeiros, costs the trafficker 200 cruzeiros. Heroin costs as much as cocaine, whereas the narcotic medicines are as inexpensive as marihuana: 1 ampoule of Pervitin or 1 dragee of Stenamine, each of which costs the trafficker 10 cruzeiros, is sold to the addict for 100 cruzeiros.

Drug Traffic

Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro--the nation's principal centers of drug use--consume marihuana that is produced in other states. A great part of the marihuana consumed, however, comes from Paraguay and Colombia, which are major centers of production.

The cocaine comes from Peru and Bolivia, which are virtually the only countries in the world where the coca plant is grown. Cocaine is obtained from coca leaves by a distillation process. The coca is a delicate plant which in order to develop requires a mixture of light and shade--the sort of climate that is typical of certain areas in the aforementioned countries of Peru and Bolivia.

The LSD comes from Sweden, the Netherlands and Great Britain; the heroin from China, India and Turkey. LSD often also comes from the United States, which also supplies the narcotic medicines (Pervitin and Stenamine). These narcotic medicines also enter Brazil from Argentina.

The police authorities know the routes taken by this traffic, from the point of production to the point of consumption; but the traffickers are constantly switching from one route to the other, thereby rendering the action of the agents of the DPF and State Police more difficult.

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CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

ADDICTION TREATMENT TO BE INTENSIFIED; DATA RELEASED

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 24 Aug 79 p 13

[Text] Brasilia bureau--A part of the 5,000 psychiatric couches maintained by the Ministry of Health will be restructured and destined for the ambulatory treatment and recovery of narcotics addicts and of the nation's 6 million alcoholics, according to an announcement made yesterday in Brasilia by Paulo Rios, who heads the National Secretariat of Special Health Programs (SNPES).

For the coming year the SNPES has increased to 35 million cruzeiros (from 15 million cruzeiros) the budget of the Integrated Program for Mental Health, which in addition to providing exclusively ambulatory treatment for mental patients in cities of the interior of the country will train personnel in the rehabilitation of drug and alcohol addicts.

The third edition of the 1978 annual report on narcotics published by the Federal Police Department evinces concern over the decline in the average age of drug users and over the gradual spread of drug use (formerly concentrated in the large population centers such as Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo and other state capitals) into the interior regions of the country.

The DPF also emphasizes the substantial increase in the quantity of drugs circulating among all strata of the Brazilian population as a result of the influence of economic, social and psychological factors that contribute directly to the upward trend in the use of narcotics (notably marihuana, cocaine, barbiturates and amphetamines as well as others of less epidemiologic significance).

Drug Traffic

In the view of the DPF, the traffic in drugs is assuming epidemic proportions, with the attendant consequences in all affected areas. Last year the Federal Police Department and the state Secretariats of Public Security seized a total of 276 tons of 11 different types of drugs, including 273 tons of marihuana alone (representing 65 plantings of cannabis); 800 ampoules of Pervitin; 1,034 doses of LSD; and 75,584 units of various tranquilizers.

Almost all of the marihuana was seized in Maranhao State, where one-third of all domestically produced marihuana is grown. Both Maranhao and Pernambuco supply other centers of consumption in addition to supplying their own local markets, however. Of the total of 87 kilograms of cocaine confiscated the greater part was seized in Mato Grosso State, followed by Rio de Janeiro and Amazonas.

The quantities of the other drugs seized were not significant: 7 grams of hashish, 304 grams of dried coca leaves, 162 grams of amphetamines, 1 gram of Heropine (in Sao Paulo), 5 grams of procaine (in Paraiba), and 150 grams of methylamphetamines (in Goias).

Of the total of 4,905 persons indicted as a result of 3,306 investigations carried out in 1978 71.22 percent were traffickers and 28.78 percent addicts, of whom 90.77 percent were men and only 9.23 percent women while 96.11 percent were Brazilian citizens and 3.89 percent foreign nationals.

The DPF report states that seizures of marihuana tripled in the course of 1 year: in 1977 a total of 91,152,617 kilograms was seized as opposed to 273,206,601 kilograms in 1978. In view of the fact that seizures of marihuana in 1972 totaled only 1,654,464 kilograms, the evolution of the situation during the past 7 years is regarded as "appalling" by the Federal Police.

The police report further discloses that virtually all the states produce and consume marihuana, the great majority of which is destined solely for the respective local markets. Because its particular characteristics make it easily available, marihuana continues to be the most heavily used drug in Brazil.

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CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

MARIHUANA, ARMS SEIZED, LARGE PLANTING DESTROYED

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 22 Aug 79 p 14

[Text] Salvador bureau--The Bahia Regional Superintendency of the Federal Police announced yesterday that during this past weekend it had seized a half ton of marihuana and had destroyed a planting--equipped with a sophisticated irrigation system--of 38,000 marihuana plants on Sao Goncalo Plantation, 414 kilometers from Salvador. According to the DPF [Federal Police Department], this is the largest seizure ever carried out in Brazil of marihuana that is "pressed and ready for use." The confiscated marihuana was destined for the principal centers of consumption (Salvador, Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, Belo Horizonte and Brasilia) and is valued at 5 million cruzeiros.

During the investigations two "planters" and six "marihuana-growing experts" were arrested, all of whose names are being withheld in order not to prejudice further operations in that region. Seven of those arrested are being held in the local jail of the town of Senhor do Bonfi, in the interior of Bahia State, and the other in Petrolina, Pernambuco State, where a cache of the marihuana was discovered. Together with the prisoners the Federal Police also seized seven 38-caliber revolvers "of the type used by gunmen" and three 22- and 44-caliber rifles. The DPF yesterday called in the press in order to exhibit the cache of marihuana, which had been put up in 500 1-kilogram plastic bags bearing the ironic comment: "We thank you for your patronage."

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BRAZIL

BRIEFS

NEW DRUG CONTROL SYSTEM--The bureau--Minister of Health Castro Lima has forwarded to Minister of Justice Petronio Portella the draft of a decree creating a national system for the investigation, control and suppression of the traffic in narcotics and other drugs in Brazil. The draft decree (the details of which Castro Lima refused to disclose) was prepared during the previous national administration and has currently undergone minor changes. The new system is to be coordinated by the technical department of narcotics and other drugs of the National Council on Health, which department has replaced the former drug control council of the Ministry of Health. The new department will be responsible for all cases relating to the use, production and marketing of these drugs and also the penalties to be imposed on traffickers. It will also be in charge of administering specific treatment to drug addicts. Two months ago Minister of Health Castro Lima transmitted to the Federal Education Council the educational program for the prevention of drug use by students of the 1st and 2nd grades throughout the nation--a program developed by the national division for health education of the Ministry of Health. In the event the program is approved, the MEC [Ministry of Education and Culture] will recommend to the State Councils on Education that they incorporate the new program into the various health activities that are compulsory in all public and private educational establishments.

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CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

AMBASSADOR: U. S. HAS NOT SUSPENDED ANTIDRUG AID

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 9 Aug 79 pp 1-A, 6-A

[Article by Julian Escovar]

[Text] The U. S. Government officially denied in Bogota yesterday that it has suspended the economic aid it gives Colombia to combat drug trafficking due to alleged human rights violations here.

The U. S. Government also recognized that in view of the vast sums involved in international drug trafficking and the overall percentage of the U. S. budget allocated to the fight against it, the amount it gives in aid to Colombia is "ridiculous." In any case, the amount of the aid is determined by Congress and not by the U. S. Government.

The U. S. Government also announced that it is negotiating a vast economic and social development program for La Guajira, since it believes that the serious challenge presented by the production and export of marihuana, in particular, cannot be met "solely on the basis of bullets."

Likewise, the U. S. Government was of the opinion that the U. S. Congress is clearing the way for the clarification of the bilateral treaty by means of which Washington recognizes Colombian sovereignty over the Caribbean keys of Serrana, Quitasueno and Roncador, which are adjacent to the coast of Nicaragua.

These statements were made by U. S. Ambassador Diego Asencio, who paid an unexpected visit in the morning to the Senate's Second Committee, which is in charge of international affairs.

The diplomat, who was accompanied by two political advisers, remained with the group about 45 minutes and spoke in perfect Spanish. He displayed a sense of humor and parliamentary skill, and did not have to refer to any document or exchange opinions with his advisers to answer the questions asked by the senators.

Asencio is confident that the United States will ratify its membership in the International Coffee Agreement soon, and revealed that at the specific

request of the Colombian authorities, measures are to be taken shortly against the smuggling of cigarettes manufactured in the United States into Colombia.

The U. S. diplomat went to the capitol building to extend a greeting, in accordance with protocol, to the new president of the Senate, Hector Echeverri Correa. Eduardo Abuchaibe Ochoa, chairman of the Second Committee and a member of parliament from La Guajira, took advantage of the occasion to invite Asencio to visit the committee and talk to its members.

Asencio was happy to oblige and began by cordially asking his listeners to voice any concern they might feel regarding U. S.-Colombian relations "with complete openness, since I love to discuss issues."

Echeverri Correa said he was pleased that the ambassador had agreed to visit the committee so cheerfully and suggested that similar meetings be held on a regular basis. In a short improvised speech he said that such meetings would make it possible to reach productive decisions in areas such as fair trade.

Regarding the report by columnist Daniel Samper Pizano published in EL TIEMPO a few days ago to the effect that the United States had suspended its anti-drug aid to Colombia due to alleged human rights violations, Asencio said the report was inaccurate. He added that Samper Pizano, whom he mentioned by name, had based his report on a commentary published last June in a U. S. magazine. The magazine had not adhered to the facts.

Asencio noted that what happened was that simple procedural problems involving international affairs cropped up in the U. S. Congress concerning the amount of narcotics aid to Colombia, and that the problems were "finally resolved." Therefore, he said, the link between human rights and the aid made by the U. S. magazine in connection with the alleged cancellation of the specific aid for narcotics control "was incidental."

Explaining further, the U. S. ambassador said that since the U. S. Congress is determined to control the expansion of the official U. S. budget as much as possible in order to avoid spiraling inflation, each package which is up for inclusion in the budget is studied very carefully.

Thus, in the case of the aforementioned aid, which had initially been set at \$14 million in the new budget, there were some procedural differences between the committees in charge of studying and assigning the aid in the Senate and the House of Representatives. However, this did not involve human rights.

In order to overcome the differences both groups appointed a joint subcommittee and a formal announcement is now expected to the effect that the problems have been solved and that the inclusion of the economic aid in the budget is guaranteed.

Asencio said he is as yet in no position to say what the final amount of the aid would be, since it could range between \$14 and \$16 million, or perhaps more.

The diplomat answered questions by Senators Abuchaibe Ochoa, Rafael Navia and Jose Vicente Mogollon, and said that all the information he was giving them was obtained first hand since he recently spent 3 weeks in Washington and visited Congress frequently.

The Colombian senators, especially Abuchaibe and Navia, proposed to the ambassador that perhaps the amount of aid granted by the United States to Colombia to combat drug trafficking was not reasonable and that, considering the economic power of both countries, Colombia was bearing the brunt of the burden in this affair. The diplomat spoke at length on this subject.

He noted that a few days ago he personally told congressmen and U. S. police chiefs that annual aid such as the current one in the amount of \$14 or \$16 million is "small and ridiculous" considering that according to official studies, Colombia generates 70 percent of the narcotics exports brought illegally into the United States.

He based his argument on the fact that it costs \$14 million a year to support the police department in a small city such as Birmingham, Alabama, with a population of 700,000.

He emphasized that his stand was even more justified in view of the fact that the United States is spending more than \$1 billion a year to combat drug trafficking internally. Compared to this, \$14 million is an insignificant amount.

The diplomat said he hoped that this overall situation would change shortly so that the struggle against drug trafficking could obtain optimum results. Asencio said that in this joint U. S.-Colombian struggle, neither side is alone and that both sides are seeking to help each other as much as possible. The diplomat made this statement in answer to a concern voiced by Senator Abuchaibe, who said that in his opinion, Washington is not making even 10 percent of the effort it could make in this area.

The U. S. diplomat revealed that at his own initiative, his government is sounding out the World Bank and the IDB to see if they can finance an economic and social development program for La Guajira, and he said he was optimistic that a positive answer would be received in due time.

He noted that since, on Colombia's initiative, the economic aid granted through the Agency for International Development (AID) is about to come to an end, this agency would only be able to draw up the respective feasibility plans for the aforementioned program.

Regarding the Serrana, Roncador and Quitasueno keys, the U. S. diplomat said that the U. S. Congress has asked that certain wording be clarified in the respective treaty and that this will not affect the prompt ratification of the treaty.

He concluded by saying that this treaty has already been negotiated at the bilateral level and ratification is expected shortly. However, he said that it is not known whether the new situation in Nicaragua will affect ratification.

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CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

COCAINE LABORATORY RAIDED IN BOGOTA

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 17 Aug 79 pp 1-A, 1-C

[Text] The F-2 has discovered a cocaine laboratory with equipment which is not even available at the Institute of Legal Medicine or at the National Police laboratories. The F-2 found the cocaine laboratory in a luxurious apartment in northern Bogota.

In the process the F-2 managed to capture five of the owners of the laboratory. Two other persons were subsequently arrested around noon yesterday in the southern sector of Bogota in connection with the same case. The two were found in possession of a considerable amount of cocaine.

In all, 11 kg of cocaine were confiscated, and according to reports, it was of the purest quality. The laboratory was operating in Apartment No 1602, Building No 82-62, on 7th street.

In addition to the cocaine and the laboratory, the F-2 confiscated 1 12-gauge shotgun, 96 cartridges, 22 bullets for a 38-caliber long revolver and \$68,350.

Those arrested were identified as Alfonso Vargas Cuellar, Dioselina Cuellar Vergara [sic], Carlos Bermudez Uribe, Antonio Jose Bermudez Uribe, owner of the apartment, and Rafael Oscar Cortes Robayo.

The Operation

According to official reports, for several weeks special agents of the F-2 narcotics squad had been trailing persons suspected of trafficking in cocaine. This led the F-2 to the aforementioned building. A patrol arrived at the building on the afternoon of 14 August.

Initially, the F-2 found 10 kg of cocaine in the ~~apartment~~ packaged and ready to be sent abroad.

According to F-2 reports, this is the most sophisticated laboratory ever seized in Colombia. Among the equipment, the F-2 found an electronic

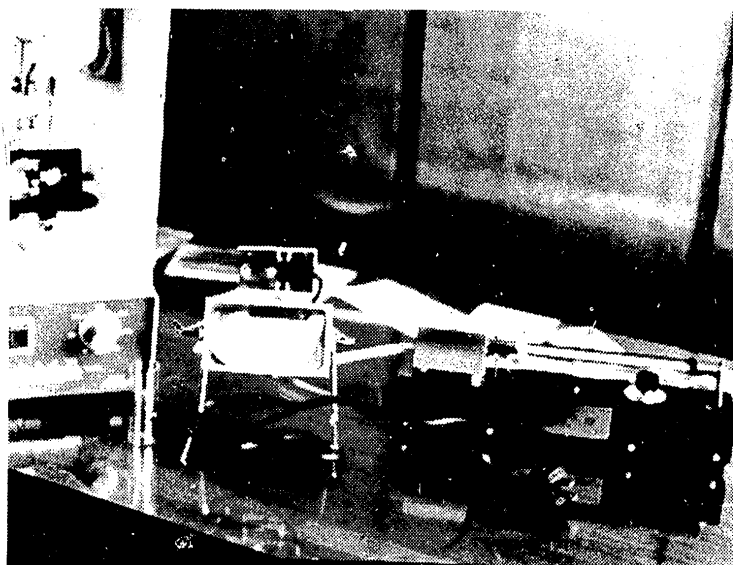
quality control device which made it possible to get higher prices for the drug because it helped to show the very high purity of the product.

Several electronic engineers who were called in by the F-2 to examine the electronic device said that they were not familiar with the machine and that there was probably no other like it in Colombia.

Another electronic device for measuring the product's acidity during the manufacturing process was found. The F-2 also found other devices called "fusiometros" [fusiometers] which are used to determine the percentage of the cocaine's purity. According to experts, the cocaine was 99 percent pure.

The F-2 also found a special electronic magnifying glass used to measure the size of the crystals and their brilliance.

Following the raid on the apartment on 7th street, the F-2 carried out a raid on diagonal street 40, No 18-50 South, where it found 1.5 kg of cocaine of the same quality as that found in the aforementioned laboratory. Two other persons were arrested at that address but their names were not disclosed because the investigation is not considered finished and more confiscations and arrests are expected shortly.



At left, the electronic quality control device being used by the drug traffickers arrested by the F-2. In the middle, the electronic magnifying glass used to measure the crystals, and next to it the device for measuring the cocaine's acidity.

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CSO: 5300



Dioselina Cuéllar
Guevara



Rafael Oscar
Cortés Robayo



Alfonso Vargas
Cuéllar



Antonio José
Bermúdez Uribe



Carlos Bermúdez
Uribe

COLOMBIA

COCAINE SEIZED, TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 10 Aug 79 p 16-A

[Article by Francisco Cristancho]

[Text] Members of the narcotics squad attached to the attorney general's office struck one of the strongest blows against the drug traffic mafia last night in Bogota. In a building in Fontibon, to the west of the city, the squad was able to confiscate more than 50 kg of cocaine paste and two modern vehicles which were used to transport the drug. The squad also arrested six of the members of the well-organized gang.

Coming From Peru

The paste--which was initially estimated to be worth 40 million pesos--came from Peru, and according to reports by the investigators, it was transported in a 1979 model armored car, license plate No SD-1600. In the gas tank the squad found a false bottom which had been specially made to hide the drug.

The squad also confiscated a 1979 model truck with free transit license No 03230. Like the armored car, the truck also had a special compartment for transporting the cocaine.

Persons Arrested

As previously reported, six persons were arrested at house No 22-63 on 103-B street. They were identified as: Camilo Rivera Gonzalez, who was said to be the head of the organization, Rubiel Cadavid Velasquez, Armamdo [sic] Vergara Saavedra, Raul Penaranda Rodriguez, Rafael Trios, and Olga Sanchez, owner of the house.

The Investigation

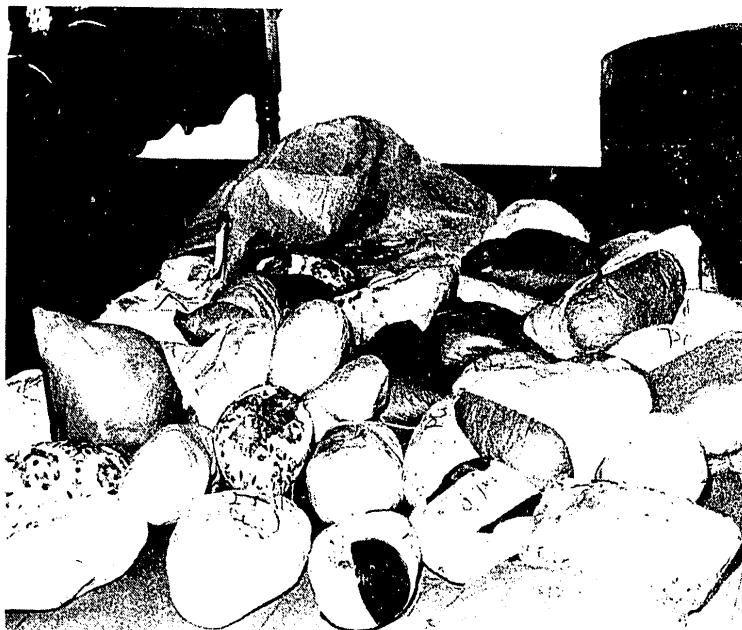
This large quantity of cocaine was discovered thanks to an intensive tracking operation carried out by the special agents of the narcotics squad of the attorney general's office. Following a series of investigations begun

several months ago, the squad was able to uncover the "cache" in the district of Fontibon, where they found the valuable shipment last night around 1930 hours following a "lightning" operation.

A spokesman said at the site of the events that the paste confiscated may be as much as 85 or 90 percent pure and that after it is duly processed it could be worth as much as 300 million pesos on the black market.

The blow struck by the country's authorities yesterday against the drug traffic mafia has been labeled one of the strongest in recent times.

The cocaine paste was perfectly packaged in plastic bags and camouflaged in plastic sacks. The paste was found in a room of the house which was used as a storeroom for spare auto parts and auto repair tools.



This is how the narcotics squad of the attorney general's office found and confiscated close to 50 kg of cocaine paste in a house in Fontibon yesterday.



Rubiel Cadavid, arrested.



Camilo Rivera Gonzalez



Rafael Trios, arrested



Raul Penaranda, arrested

9494
CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

TRAFFICKER KILLED IN ATTACK ON JAIL

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 10 Aug 79 p 10-A

[Text] One of the drug traffic gangs which is still operating in La Guajira despite the drastic measures taken by the National Government to control them played the starring role in a scene right out of the movies when it staged an attack on the prison in Maicao. After overpowering the guard on duty, the gang proceeded to shoot to death one of the inmates who was imprisoned for drug trafficking.

Seven Bullets

The events took place at dawn last Wednesday when, according to the report by the Press and Information Secretariat of the National Police, three heavily armed individuals broke into the Maicao prison and after overpowering, gagging and tying up the guard, entered the victim's cell and shot him to death with seven bullets.

The murderers then left the prison and fled in a small truck without license plates. The murder victim was Edgard Laye Bandan. He was apparently a foreigner and had been arrested for drug trafficking.

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CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

GOVERNMENT TO BOOST AGRICULTURE IN MARIHUANA REGION

PA172346 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 17 Aug 79 PA

[Text] The Attorney General's Office will propose today an extensive program to strengthen the economy of the zones traditionally used for the cultivation and export of marihuana and to create incentives to orient the people's efforts toward food production.

Attorney General Guillermo Gonzalez Charry submitted [as heard] a bill to President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala to be studied by the Congress, whereby a vigorous program would be started to convert those areas currently used to grow marihuana into agricultural zones.

The bill urges government efforts toward such areas as La Guajira, the eastern plains and some Atlantic coast departments, where large marihuana plantations have been discovered.

CSO: 5300

MEXICO

DRUG TRAFFIC MOTIVE FOR DOUBLE MURDER IN XICOTENCATL

Four Arrested

H. Matamoros EL BRAVO in Spanish 27 Aug 79 Sec A p 4

[Text] Ciudad Rio Bravo, Tamaulipas--State Judicial Police agents arrested four individuals in Nuevo Progreso presumably implicated in the double murder which occurred the day before yesterday in Xicotencatl, in which the drug trafficker Benito Cardenas Ibarra, and his wife, Cecilia Guerrero Rendon, were shot to death from an ambush while they were returning from their farm located in the municipality of Llera, Tamaulipas. There is no definite information, and the State Judicial Police explained that the four persons were arrested "for questioning."

Although the State Judicial Police refused to give the identities of those in custody, "so as not to hamper the investigation," EL BRAVO learned officially that those under arrest are Rolando Garcia Garcia, Jose Garcia Garcia, Mauro Ortega Castaneda and Manuel Cintenelas Flores, for had friendly relations with the deceased for some time, while he was engaged full-time in drug trafficking.

Fernando Hernandez Gonzalez, who has been assigned head of the State Judicial Police group here in the absence of its head, Israel Pena Lucero, said that the four persons arrested had been caught in their residences.

Hernandez Gonzalez would not venture a guess as to the presumed participation of those under arrest in the horrible dual murder, which occurred in the vicinity of the Pedro J. Mendez communal farm. He said that all four would be subjected to close questioning, in order to determine what kind of connections they had with the murdered drug trafficker.

The Crime

As EL BRAVO reported at the time in its police section, the Cardenas-Rendon couple were riddled with bullets in a trap set for them by unidentified persons. According to other investigations, it was claimed that the State Judicial Police in Ciudad Victoria suspect that at least three individuals took part in the double crime.

Benito Cardenas Ibarra had been engaged in drug trafficking for some time, although he recently appeared to have "retired" from that activity. On one occasion he was arrested by the present chief of the municipal police, Alejandro Martinez Martinez, while the latter was serving as an agent of the State Judicial Police, approximately 4 years ago.

He had a lengthy record for drug trafficking. His main area of activity was located precisely in Nuevo Progreso, a settlement which he presumably used for shipping drugs to the United States.

It is also suspected that his death was perpetrated as an act of vengeance between the underworld gangs which control the drug traffic on the borders. According to information provided by various sources, his wife, who was also killed by the assassins' bullets, was 7 months' pregnant.

Possible Transfer of the Four Arrested in Nuevo Progreso to Ciudad Victoria

It was also learned that the four individuals under arrest may possibly be turned over to the head of the State Judicial Police, Capt Alvaro Zeron Alvarez, who is reportedly personally responsible for the investigation of the double slaying.

The four persons in custody are in the State Judicial Police jail. Instructions are being awaited to transfer them to Ciudad Victoria, and to intensify the investigation.

Further Details Disclosed

H. Matamoros EL BRAVO in Spanish 28 Aug 79 Sec A p 10

[Text] Ciudad Rio Bravo, Tamaulipas--Yesterday, Teodoro Hernandez Gonzalez, supervisor of the State Judicial Police, established the fact that the motive for the double crime in Xicotencatl was drug trafficking, and claimed that the identity of the murderers is known, expressing the view that they would be captured sometime during the day (yesterday). The State Judicial Police official said that the four persons were arrested in Nuevo Progreso, claiming that they "had worked" for the deceased at some time.

Hernandez Gonzalez noted that Marisela Infante, the girlfriend of the deceased, had been identified and located; and she presumably has accurate information on those who may have committed the horrible double crime.

The area was combed yesterday. A group of agents also toured the Texas valley, where the deceased had managed a vice den, which he apparently also used for distributing drugs on a small scale.

Because of his lengthy record of drug trafficking, Hernandez Gonzalez maintained that the double murder of Benito Cardenas Ibarra, alias "El Benny," and his wife, Cecilia Guerrero de Cardenas, was committed for revenge by persons who have now been identified.

He Was Prone to Making "Deals"

Moreover, very reliable sources indicated that "El Benny" was prone to making "deals" with shipments of drugs that were brought to him from the interior of the republic, which he later sold on the black market in the United States.

It is believed that, with the arrest of the murderers of "El Benny," a large ring of international drug traffickers whose drug distribution covered a large area of the neighboring country will be broken up.

The investigation is being headed personally by supervisor Teodoro Hernandez Gonzalez, who is being assisted by agents Juan Arredondo and Alfonso Duran.

2909

CSO: 5330

MEXICO

BRIEFS

AIRPORT MANAGER SHIPPING MARIHUANA--Eugene "Bud" Stringer, aged 47, one of the administrative managers of the airport in Nogales, Arizona, when pressured by FBI agents, finally confessed that he was an international drug trafficker who, in collusion with two residents of Nogales, Sonora, had smuggled large shipments of marihuana (over 200 tons), using the airplanes at his disposal. Stringer, who was assured immunity if he would expose his accomplices and tell the truth, said that he left the airport by plane with large amounts of contraband for Mexican towns, receiving from \$25,000 to \$35,000 per trip; and, upon his return, arrived at clandestine airfields in Caborca and Magdalena, where he loaded tons of marihuana, having amassed over half a million dollars as a profit. Among his accomplices in Nogales, Sonora, he named an individual nicknamed "Siggy," and another with the surname Martinez. This information was supplied yesterday by the newspaper INTERNACIONAL. Further information will be made available tomorrow. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 23 Aug 79 p 4]

HEROIN TRAFFICKERS CAUGHT--Yesterday, forces from the Federal Judicial Police Nogales Group dealt a harsh blow at the drug traffic when they seized 77 grams of heroin of the best quality, arresting three presumed drug traffickers and confiscating a pistol and a pickup truck. This information was given to DIARIO's reporter by Federal Public Ministry agent Humberto Garcia de Alba, who added that the traffickers were Feliciano Rascon Arguelles, Gerardo Velazquez Santillan and Arturo Noriega Rascon, who, at the time of their arrest, were attempting to make a purchase and sale of the aforementioned drug, which was valued at several thousand dollars. They were captured in Naco and, upon being apprehended, brandished 38-caliber Barreta pistols; but they were brought to submission by the federal police led by their commander. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 22 Aug 79 p 4] 2909

COCAINE SMUGGLER FOILED--Colima, 22 August--The dog which, according to the popular saying, is man's best friend, is, on the contrary, the worst enemy of drug traffickers; and this fact has just been proven at the airport. A police dog of the kind used at the airport, especially trained to detect drugs, sniffed the suitcase of the Colombian drug trafficker, Carlos Castaneda, who was carrying 25 kilograms of cocaine paste, and alerted the police with his barking. "Igor," the trained dog, detected the drugs despite the fact that repellants had been placed in the suitcase to disguise the odor of the cocaine. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 23 Aug 79 p 4] 2909

STATUS REPORT ON SEIZURES--Mexico City, 14 August--During the past 24 hours, agents of the Federal Judicial Police struck hard at the national drug traffic, seizing drugs with a total value of 20 million pesos in various sections of the country. The work accomplished is related to the activities scheduled throughout the country to destroy drug plantations called for in the permanent campaign against drug trafficking, particularly the so-called "Operation Condor." During this drive, about 74 drug traffickers were arrested in 34 different locations in the country, and 200 kilograms of packed marihuana, 650 grams of heroin, 50 grams of cocaine, several toxic pills, 1 kilogram of marihuana seed and other drugs were confiscated from them. According to an announcement made by the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic, during the activity 17 high-powered weapons, such as M-1 rifles and M-17 machine guns, an arsenal which the drug traffickers were using to guard the plantations, were also seized. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 15 Aug 79 p 4] 2909

BASEBALL ENTREPRENEUR CHARGED--Tijuana, Baja California, 27 August--Lorenzo Arce Flores, head of the Los Potros baseball stadium and manager of the multi-bank Comermex, in that town, was accused by the Los Angeles grand jury of bringing narcotics (heroin and cocaine) into the United States on a large scale. An additional 21 persons are implicated, including Gregorio Humberto Castaneda, a stockholder in the Los Potros baseball club, and businessman Rodolfo Lugo Gil, as well as several United States citizens. Jerry Jensen, director of the federal antidrug agency of California, cited this case as "the most important tax evasion case and instance of documented financial investigation linked with the drug traffic." The Los Angeles grand jury claimed that those involved deposited approximately \$32 million in several Mexican and American banks during the period from September 1975 to October 1978. It added that many of the "operations" had been led by Jaime and Jesus Araujo Avila. The presumed drug traffickers smuggled drugs concealed in secret compartments in cars registered under fictitious names, also doing so with bank accounts and the purchase of residences; and selling the drugs in Los Angeles, Pittsburgh and Seattle. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 28 Aug 79 Sec A p 5] 2909

HEROIN TRAFFICKER RELEASED--Yesterday, the federal prisoner Efren Aguirre Jimenez, who was sentenced to 2 years in jail for his guilt of committing a crime of carrying firearms and ammunition reserved for the exclusive use of the army recovered his freedom upon paying the bail of 10,000 pesos set for him by the unified fourth circuit court located in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon. Aguirre Jimenez succeeded in mocking justice because, despite the fact that he was identified by the Federal Judicial Police as the ringleader of a powerful ring of drug traffickers, from whom over 30 kilograms of heroin were confiscated, the second district judge acquitted him of all liability in the commission of a crime against health. The aforementioned individual was captured, together with Celestino Rivera Coronel, Fausto Garza Lopez, alias "El Canelo," Fausto Garza Huerta and Emilio Quintero Payan. The only one sentenced for drug trafficking was Rivera Coronel, on whom the judge imposed

a sentence of 10 years in prison. Efren Aguirre was released at noon yesterday, in accordance with an order from the second district judge issued after he had received a message sent by the unified fourth circuit court wherein it was reported that the aforementioned individual had paid the bail which had been set for him. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 25 Aug 79 Sec B p 3] 2909

TRAFFICKER ARRESTED IN TORREON--The federal agents detailed to Torreon, Coahuila, executed a warrant for the arrest of an individual named Benjamin Villarreal Venegas. This person was wanted by the first district judge of the state located in Tampico, Tamaulipas, because proceedings 54-975 are being conducted against him for a crime against health. As soon as he was arrested, Villarreal Venegas was taken to the port of Tampico. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 11 Aug 79 Sec B p 5] 2909

THREE MARIHUANA TRAFFICKERS SENTENCED--Three individuals who were arrested in September 1977 for engaging in drug trafficking received jail sentences from the second district judge, Luis Garcia Romero, who brought a suit against them for a crime against health. In connection with proceedings 140-978, Elias Martinez Chapa, alias "La Bruja," received an 8-year jail sentence for committing a crime against health in the degree of marihuana possession, transportation and trafficking. Jose Garcia Lopez received a 7-year jail sentence for the same crime, but in the degree of marihuana possession and transportation; and Isidro Reyes Lopez was sentenced to 6 years in jail for marihuana possession. The arrest of the three aforementioned individuals took place on 9 September 1977, and was carried out by a special inspector from the Secretariat of Communications and Transport acting as a federal judicial police officer representing the Ministry of Law, who had been given a tip that "La Bruja" was trafficking in arms in the town of Comales. The SCT inspector searched "La Bruja's" residence, where he found a 45-caliber machine gun, a 30-caliber M-1 carbine, a 30-06 rifle and a 38-caliber "super" pistol, as well as 20 kilograms of marihuana and 10 kilograms of seed of the same drug. With regard to the drugs, Martinez Chapa stated that the 20 kilograms were part of 60 kilograms which he had purchased for 6,000 pesos at a farm known as "1,2,3," located in the municipality of Bravo, Nuevo Leon, claiming that he had exchanged the missing 40 kilograms for weapons with an American. "La Bruja" said, or rather confessed that he had purchased the drugs through Isidro Reyes Lopez. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 11 Aug 79 Sec B p 5] 2909

FEDERAL JUDICIAL POLICE RAID--Rio Bravo, Tamaulipas--Twelve Federal Judicial Police agents made a sudden raid on several communal farms in the municipality, mainly "La Reforma," where they apparently captured two or three persons implicated in shipping drugs to the United States. The action was unexpected, and none of the police authorities knew about the arrival of the Federal Judicial Police. It was said unofficially that one of those arrested, whose name was not disclosed, exposed a series of extortions which he attributed to persons who pretend to be State Judicial Police agents. According to the

information provided to EL BRAVO, the federal police raid took place at 0345 hours at dawn, the day before yesterday. They were traveling in three "Blazer" type small trucks, and were supplied with high-powered, long-range weapons. The arrested persons were allegedly taken to Reynosa, and subsequently to Nuevo Laredo. Officially, based on inquiries by very reliable sources, the Federal Judicial Police in Reynosa denied having raided that municipality; and there is every indication, based on the evidence, that the Federal Judicial Police agents came from Nuevo Laredo or Monterrey, where three drug traffickers were apparently captured with a truck loaded with 6 tons of marihuana. Thus far, there has been no official acknowledgment of any of this, but the shipment is assumed to have been enroute to a notorious drug trafficker in the area. [Text] [H. Matamoros EL BRAVO in Spanish 24 Aug 79 Sec A p 11] 2909

MARIHUANA PLANTATION DESTROYED--The Federal Judicial Police discovered and destroyed a marihuana plantation located on a site near Galeana, Nuevo Leon. Agents from the Federal Judicial Police detailed to Monterrey made a tour of the Galeana mountain area, and discovered the plantation, the crop on which was only about 30 centimeters tall. The cannabis indica plantation covered an area of 100 square meters, and there were eight plants in each square meter. The Federal Police requested instructions from the coordinator of the antidrug campaign in the northeast zone, Alfredo Aaron Juarez Jimenez, and the official ordered its destruction, but not before first obtaining the necessary evidence with which to complete the pertinent investigation. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 23 Aug 79 Sec B p 3] 2909

CSO: 5330

PANAMA

BRIEFS

DRUG TRAFFICKER ARRESTED--Yesterday Panamanian immigration officers arrested 22-year-old U.S. citizen (?Dale Brody Borden) at Tocumen airport for carrying four bags of cocaine in a double-bottomed suitcase. He said that he had purchased the 800 grams of drugs in Bolivia and was to deliver it in Costa Rica. [Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 11 Sep 79 PA]

YUGOSLAV TRAFFICKER ARRESTED--Panamanian internal revenue office inspectors arrested Svrako Bugeti Digeorg, a Yugoslav citizen, with 10 plastic packages containing approximately 400 gr of cocaine. He was arrested at Tocumen International Airport on his arrival from Lima, Peru. [Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 13 Sep 79 PA]

CSO: 5300

IRAN

PGOI ANNOUNCES ANTI-OPIUM CAMPAIGN

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 9 Sep 79 p 2

[Article by Homayoun Forouzan]

[Text] Tehran--The Ministry of Health and the Revolutionary Council are expected to decide this week about the future prospects of poppy cultivation and the production of opium for addicts.

The Islamic government has launched a crusade against all kinds of opium products and in order to save the nation and particularly the youth from such dangerous drugs, and maintain a strong nation with healthy minds to shoulder the heavy responsibilities of the future.

The poppy cultivation this year took place as scheduled and the opium produced was sold to the government. But informed sources believed the opium handed over to the government was less than the total production.

Official sources confirmed that the opium delivered to the government by cultivators does not exceed 130 tons, while the total annual consumption of opium in the country was around 250 to 300 tons, which could easily be derived by putting 20,000 hectares of land under poppy cultivation.

These sources further said during the last year the poppy cultivation was allowed only in the central provinces of Isfahan, Fars Kerman, Lorestan, Hamadan, Semnan, Yazd and Khorassan, where some 20,000 hectares of land was put under poppy cultivation.

In view of the extensive crusade against opium, launched by the government throughout the country, it appeared the government would impose new restrictions on poppy cultivation in order to reduce the production of opium to a minimum, sources said.

The government has also started an educative program on radio and TV networks explaining the miserable conditions of the addicts and asking the people to refrain from using this dangerous drug which becomes a menace for the rest of one's life after a few days of successive use.

CSO: 5300

IRAN

BRIEFS

DRUG ADDICTION SPREADS--Teheran--More than one million of Iran's 36 million inhabitants are drug addicts, the pro-Khomeini Teheran evening newspaper KAYHAN reported today, quoting unofficial statistics. The majority of heroin addicts are aged between 20 and 25, half of them are under 30, while only 14 percent are over 40, the paper said, quoting an unnamed expert. It said the same study found only 22 percent of opium addicts are under 30 while 41 percent are over 40. Nearly a third of all addicts work at odd jobs, nearly a quarter are factory workers, about one in ten are white-collar workers, about one in ten are housewives and seven percent are farmers, the report said. Few are artists, big landowners or businessmen. An opium addict spends on average of between 350 and 400 rials (five to six dollars) per day, and a heroin addict between 800 and 1,000 rials (11 to 15 dollars) per day on drug supplies, according to KAYHAN. The minimum monthly salary in Iran is 15,000 rials (about 180 dollars). The paper attributed the number of addicts to several factors: lack of special medical care, open sale and consumption of drugs, especially opium, lack of entertainment and sports facilities, and the ban on alcohol. [Text] [Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 5 Sep 79 p 3]

CSO: 5300

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

ANALYSIS OF HEROIN SCENE, POLICE MEASURES GIVEN

Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 27 Aug 79 pp 86-90

[Article: "The Scene Is Being Swamped"]

[Text] In the FRG, Europe's leading heroin country, far more than 300 fixers have injected themselves to death this year. Turkish drug smugglers are supplying the fixer scene with heroin at the lowest prices in the world, and dope rings from the Far East are distributing stuff from the FRG across the entire Continent. On ever new routes couriers carry narcotics from the traditional areas of cultivation in Pakistan and Afghanistan to the West.

When police entered the apartment of a Turkish family on Aufrasse in Offenbach, the dead body of a 14-year-old schoolgirl was lying on the bed. Some scarred and some still fresh punctures on both arms pointed to the cause of death: heroin.

In Duesseldorf-Unterrath a housewife discovered her son on the couch of a drug-addict prostitute. Next to the corpse of the 24-year-old still lay a syringe, tinfoil and a dose of heroin for the next shot, which the victim had missed out on.

In a fixer's apartment in Mommsenstrasse in Berlin lay the dead body of a young man who had been unemployed. Doctors found a couple of marks of fresh injections on his arms. Following a 9-month withdrawal cure, he had just been released from the psychiatric clinic in Wittenau.

Three scenes from a scene in which one--at least one--young FRG citizen dies every day. From January to the end of July 335 fixers fell victim to heroin in the FRG, having "set their eyes on zero" after the last shot, as the junkies put it in their jargon. By the end of the year the total will be 600.

The projection is conclusive: the FRG has sunk to being the leading heroin country in Europe. Within a period of 10 years, drug addiction, originally

an unusual phenomenon to be found perhaps among artists, has turned into a mass phenomenon. The "relative mortality rate" among drug addicts is higher in Berlin than it is in New York.

The fact that persons dead from heroin are picked from public toilets and gutters day in and day out is now only marginal news. Attention is only aroused after fixers lose their lives before certain death from heroin because they injected the wrong stuff into their veins--like three young people in Villingen-Schwenningen in Swabia who died from colchicine, the deadly alkaloid of the meadow saffron.

It is mostly juveniles, but recently even children, who are affected. In Berlin, says Berlin drug representative Wolfgang Heckmann, "several hundred among those under 16 are on the needle." In Frankfurt, according to what Criminal Police Chief Commissioner Peter Loos has observed, it is also "young girls and boys who are taken in by the dealers."

And only the first time is it as much fun as they have been led to believe. After no more than five injections, they are hooked. They take anything that "roars," and "heroin roars best," says drug representative Heckmann. "Roaring means switching off, dulling oneself, not seeing, not hearing, not feeling anything any longer."

The slow entry into addiction, at one time practiced by hashish-smoking secondary school students, is passe. The new generation of fixers, according to federal drug representative Manfred Franke, "goes straight for heroin, wanting the superbeer right off."

What they want, and after a few injections in fact must have, is the crystalline "Hong Kong rocks" ("heroin No 3") with an effective ingredient content of 30 to 60 percent and the powder-form "Turkish honey" ("No 4") with a concentration of heroin up to 90 percent, made from morphine base ("No 1") and a combination of morphine and heroin ("No 2"). Even when profit-hungry go-betweens stretch the stuff the fixers dream of with flour and gypsum, lactose, headache pills and a trace of strychnine, they still lovingly call it "the queen"--when they are high.

If they have no stuff and are suffering--dreadfully so--they will sometimes admit, as a north German addict said in a goodbye letter, that drugs "turn a man into a piece of shit."

Juvenile addicts need 10 "hits" a day, about 1 gram, to avoid painful withdrawal symptoms. The "full-time job of the fixer" (Loos' terminology) compels thousands to be on track around the clock, ever in pursuit of pure heroin, which foreign criminals are pushing en masse on to the West German market--at the lowest price in the world of 100 deutsche marks per gram.

Nowhere else from Sicily to the North Cape are police confiscating so much heroin, are so many addicts dependent on the syringe. And nowhere else does the curve of indicators pointing to an epidemic spreading of the lethal poison climb so steeply.

Last year West German narcotic agents seized not quite 190 kilograms of heroin, or almost 400 times as much as in 1970 and still 3 times as much as the quantity uncovered the previous year. In 1978 there were 430 fixers who injected themselves to death (compared with 29 in 1970 and 194 in 1975), and in the same year about 40,000 drug addicts were registered, including 16,000 children, juveniles and adolescents.

Experts estimate that there are another 20,000 unknown junkies. And they are increasing all the time, because whoever is addicted can cover his need for heroin financially only by trading in heroin. "Junkies produce junkies" is the criminological rule-of-thumb given by a member of the Berlin criminal police.

The few therapy centers, which offer room for therapy to only 1 in every 5 addicts, have long since been overrun, and long since have prosecutors given up and waved off police "bringing in the same fixer for the 10th time during the same year," says Frankfurt drug fighter Loos.

West German penitentiaries are overcrowded with narcotic offenders. In Hesse, according to findings by Justice Minister Herbert Guenther in Wiesbaden, already every second sentenced female and 40 percent of males under detention pending trial are drug addicts.

Horst Herold, head of the BKA [Federal Criminal Police Bureau] in Wiesbaden has now sounded the alarm in Bonn, saying that the efforts of the BKA and the Land police have been "inadequate." The "splintering" of prosecuting responsibilities, he says, is impeding the investigative work directed against international gangs concentrated in the BKS. The scope of penalties for serious narcotic offenses has proved insufficient, he states.

In a 15-page memorandum, he listed "insufficient bases and measures" as well as "omissions" in the fight against drugs, submitting to his superior, Minister of the Interior Gerhart Baum, proposals for a "program to take immediate effect."

The program provides for the following:

--The BKA drug division is to be replenished, and there is to be an expansion of the "Pios" narcotic electronic data system in which about 37,000 facts about drug offenses and offenders have been stored so far.

--Customs control at airports and border crossings are to be strengthened both as regards personnel and as regards equipment.

--The "forming of a criminal association for the purpose of narcotic trade" is to be included in the narcotics law, with maximum penalties up to 15 years, and the prospect of no prosecution is to be held out to members of gangs surrendering voluntarily.

--Drug consultation stations and both open and closed therapy installations are to be furthered, and preventative measures of enlightenment strengthened.

The "cry for help by the police," as Erich Strass, head of the BKA drug division, calls the Herold plan, is long overdue. Because, instead of assigning the "same priority" to drug abuse and terrorism, as demanded by Baum's predecessor, Maihofer, as early as in 1976, West German narcotic agents have always taken a back seat to their colleagues involved with the "Red Army Fraction" [RAF] and "revolutionary Cells."

Whereas in the "TE" division of the BKA last year 300 criminal police tracked terrorists in flight, expansion of the drug squad stagnated with 45 employees, one-third of the table of organization. To one affected pursuer of dealers this appears to be "fairly illogical" in that, "after all, the narcotic trade causes more death in a year than terrorism does in a decade."

The fact that people making criminological policy have not been deterred by such deliberations from concentrating on political criminals suited the international drug dealers just fine. When Interpol and Dutch police in 1977 managed to smash the European heroin headquarters (the "Dutch connection") in Amsterdam and West German police were assigned primarily to investigate the murder attempts by the successors of the RAF, a number of drug multis were able to move to the FRG almost without any obstacles being put in their way.

Since that time West Germany has been considered the most important heroin market in Europe. "Whoever previously went to Amsterdam," says a member of the criminal police in Basel, "now gets his stuff in Munich or Frankfurt." The following are active on this scene:

--Criminal associations that have migrated from the Netherlands, importing inferior "heroin No 3" ("Hong Kong rocks") into the FRG from the east and supplying neighboring countries from there with a tightly organized system of purchasers, couriers, big dealers and go-betweens.

--Barely structured dope rings controlled by Turks, bringing exclusively pure "heroin No 4" to the West German and Berlin consumers' centers via the overland route from Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran.

--Individual entrepreneurs from Middle Eastern countries who get heroin in small quantities "from an uncle in Eastern Anatolia"--as one agent puts it--and take it, generally by car, to the homeland of their choice.

How the links of the international dope rings are forged is revealed by the trial of the so-called Singapore group now being tried in Hamburg after 2 years of investigations. With branches in Kuala Lumpur, Copenhagen, Bangkok and Amsterdam, the protagonists, according to the investigations, steered 34 accomplices and presumably several hundred kilograms of heroin around the world while working out of their headquarters in a Chinese restaurant in Hamburg.

Agents first got on the track of what one BKA man calls the "so far biggest heroin operation working out of West German territory" in at first seemingly unconnected captures of altogether 15 couriers. In Luxembourg, a transporter with 9 kilograms of heroin was nabbed, then a couple in Helsinki with 5 kilograms and another couple in Hamburg with 10 kilograms of heroin. The stuff was always the "No 3" brand produced in the Far East, and the sequence of digits "2081400" was found in the notebooks of almost all those apprehended.

In decoding the figure, the investigators hit on a Hamburg telephone number. True, whatever came over the hot wire, which immediately was monitored officially, was likewise in code, but the drug experts had no trouble understanding it. In calls from Amsterdam and Singapore there was talk of "fish" and "vegetables" (heroin), "birds" (couriers) and "coats" (heroin caches). From South Africa came the news that a particularly big fish was en route to Hamburg.

Just where the prospective cargo of heroin from the Cape of Good Hope was to be taken over in Hamburg came out in phone calls by a German woman to the Hamburg Port Authority who enquired three times about where the Malaysian freighter "San Kuru" was to dock. When the agents arrived at the harbor, three sailors with chock-full suitcases ran into their arms. The contents: 38 kilograms of "Hong Kong rocks" worth 11.5 million deutsche marks.

Whereas the Singapore group and three other internationally operating associations being tracked down by agents did all their European business via bases on FRG territory, the domestic market is increasingly being dominated by Turks, and occasionally also by Lebanese and Iranians. The type, amount and price of the drugs brought in via the Bosphorus, in the opinion of agents, have initiated a "highly dangerous trend" whose effects cannot yet be fathomed at all."

The stuff from the Middle East, "heroin No 4, up to 90 percent pure," is not only more concentrated than the "Hong Kong rocks" (30 to 60 percent heroin), which used to dominate the market, but also much cheaper. Whereas little more than a year ago it was still possible to attain a top price of 1,000 deutsche marks per gram, the fine heroin powder, which can also be snuffed, is now being sold cheaply at prices ranging from 100 to 200 deutsche marks.

The discount offer with which dealers constantly catch new consumers (dealers' lie: "Snuffing causes no addiction") and still obtain profit margins of 2,000 percent results from an import system, hardly controllable, which has been causing an excess in supply for months. Differently from the time of the "Dutch connection," when a few heroin gangs controlled the market and quantities, now, in the words of one agent, "the scene is being swamped, come hell or high water."

What is causing concern to the BKA narcotic agents in this, above all, is the "continuing decentralization of the heroin trade" that has been observed

since the beginning of this year down to regional groups, family clans and individuals. "Independent small organizations" with "local protection of territory" pass the stuff in small portions into FRG territory without mutual coordination.

In this the Turks enjoy better protection from massive government pursuit than do the couriers from the Far East. They are being provided cover by their more than 1.2 million countrymen who reside legally in the FRG and innumerable illegal immigrants. "Berlin," one agent says, "is the fourth largest Turkish town in the world; how is one supposed to find the dealers in those circumstances?"

In addition, heroin smugglers constantly become more criminally inventive when it comes to hiding the precious merchandise. It is hardly possible to uncover it when it is stashed in the windshield washer installations and chrome of cars, film cans or the lining or under a bandaid on one's foot. And lately it has become fashionable, because it is almost without risk, also to use parts of one's body as hiding places.

By her own admission, a 19-year-old German had transported 50 grams of heroin in her vagina through customs until she was caught in a check in Frankfurt. In a detention cell in Munich, a couple of Iranian couriers decided to give up, each drawing a condom filled with 50 grams of heroin out of his anus.

The risks entailed in such containers on occasion, however, are demonstrated by the fate of Lebanese fixer and dealer El Hussein whose dead body was found by a police patrol in Seesener-Strasse in Berlin. The post mortem showed that while he had died of an overdose, his death had not been brought about by an injection. In his stomach and intestines were found 14 rubber fingers containing a total of 224 grams of heroin which the Lebanese had swallowed. One had burst.

More obvious, but not endangering life, are some attempts at smuggling by mail developed by dealers from the Middle East. Thus recently an evil-smelling package addressed to a bogus company in Koblenz arrived at Rhein-Main showing one Ali Salam of Lahore, Pakistan, as the sender. In Koblenz the contents, sheep's intestines, with police watching, were transferred to a Dutch car and taken to Utrecht. The final recipient was an intestine-import firm in Amsterdam, which distributed the stuff among heroin dealers.

The business practices of the only loosely organized Turkish heroin dealers presumably will be revealed in a trial in Frankfurt in which 11 easterners will soon have to appear to answer charges--all of them related, with fathers, sons and a mother being involved.

According to the investigations, one member of the family enterprise, which offered the Turkish stuff throughout the FRG ("85-percent-pure stuff, the best heroin available"), had worked a direct exchange of a Mercedes for 100 grams of heroin. And when it happened that another delivery was in prospect

from the homeland, the father, relying on the profits, ordered "three complete sets of cooking utensils at DM 1,449 each, COD"--enough to equip the whole clan.

The smuggle tours of the loosely organized group sometimes started quite spontaneously. A young couple, according to the investigations, very suddenly made up its mind to go to Turkey in order to buy the goods, to get married and to pay off its debts.

And since a 34-year-old Turkish woman had been given notice to quit her apartment in Frankfurt because she was behind in her rent, something had to be done for her. As the agents found out, a trip was arranged in a white VW bug to the Bosphorus, and 2 kilograms of the best heroin were imported into the FRG in a cell of the car battery.

The narcotic agents also uncovered the imported stuff of the clan at other places--1,000 grams in music boxes in Berlin, 1.73 kilograms in the door panel of an apartment in Frankfurt, 600 grams in a detergent box with dealer "Apo" in Munich and 200 grams in a fruit hamper in a residence in Frankfurt--according to the investigations, kept only barely covered by onions and potatoes "so as to be easy to get to."

Sometimes the Turks no longer go to any great pains to stretch the stuff. Thus, the criminal police found, one man enriched 100 grams of the best heroin with 70 grams of sugar--a mixture that could not be sold now even among tyro fixers. The adulterator was reviled as a "son of a bitch" by his comrades.

The investigations nevertheless dragged on, what with the relatives, as also in other cases, being unwilling to incriminate each other. It was never established whether even more important wirepullers were operating back of the Turkish clan. "They keep their mouths shut to such an extent," says BKA chief agent Strass, "that it happens more and more rarely for us to be able to get to anyone."

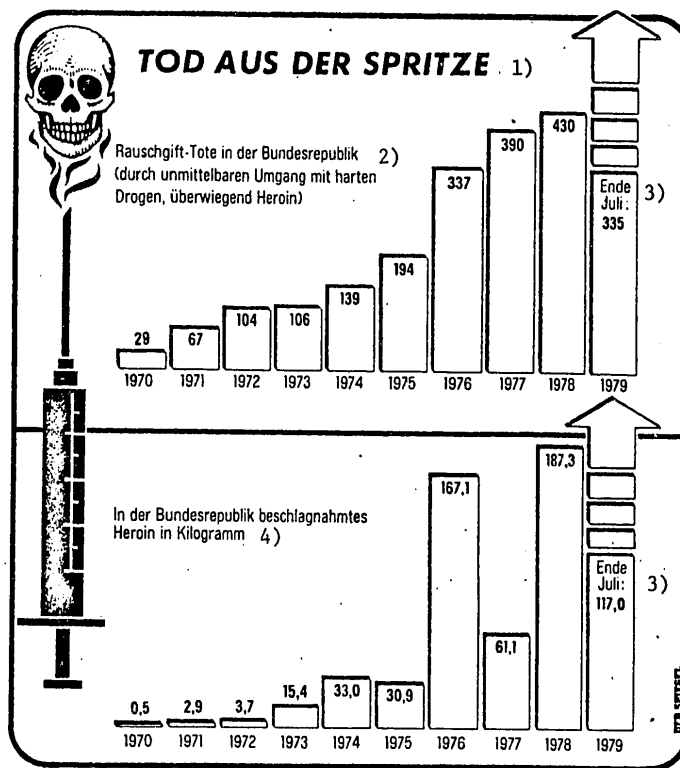
The difficulties in grabbing people abroad behind the scene are likely to be less serious when newcomers try to trade in heroin and are caught in the process--as came out in a trial in Duisburg in June. Some Turks offering 3.5 kilograms of "first-rate merchandise" in the Ruhr had drawn the attention of drug experts of the Duesseldorf Land Criminal Police Office (LKA).

Members of an instantly formed special squad (cover name: "Travel Bureau") first involved themselves in conversations as investigators and in the end entered into a deal. When the stuff was to be delivered in the Sauerland for 400,000 deutsche marks, the LKA agents nabbed the seller, a 57-year-old Turk named Yussuf Khamaran.

Mr Khamaran turned out to be a former member of parliament of the National Salvation Party who had lost his seat at the last elections on the Bosphorus. He stated that he had discussed the consequences of his defeat with former Turkish Deputy Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan. He told the criminal police in Duisburg that the contents of the conversation had been as follows:

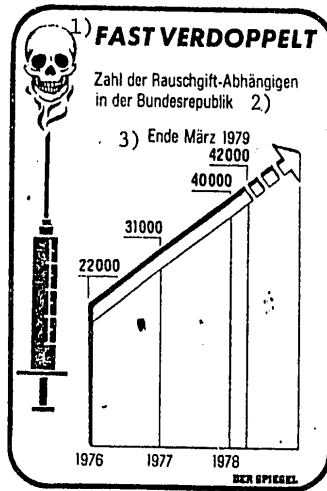
"After I had lost the election, I went to see Erbakan. I told him that I was now unemployed. Erbakan made me the offer to sell heroin in the FRG, saying 'You will make a good profit.'"

Khamaran was sentenced to 7 years' imprisonment. Investigations at first also initiated against party head Erbakan were later suspended--as happens so often when the tracks lead to the countries of origin and transit of heroin.



Key:

1. Death From the Syringe
2. Number of persons in the FRG dead from narcotics (through direct contact with hard drugs, predominantly heroin)
3. end of July
4. Heroin confiscated in the FRG, in kilograms



Key:

1. Almost Doubled
2. Number of drug addicts in the FRG
3. end of March 1979

8790

CSO: 5300

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

COCAINE-SMUGGLING GANG BROKEN UP IN MUNICH

Munich SUEDEDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG in German 16 Aug 79 p 11

[Article by Johann Freudenreich: "They Planned a European Cocaine Center"]

[Text] The--fortunately short--history of the Munich branch of a narcotics syndicate based in Peru is presently the subject of a preliminary investigation by the Munich District Attorney's Office, which is drawing to a close. Thanks to perfect cooperation between the Bavarian State Criminal Police Bureau, the Munich Customs Search Office, Scotland Yard and the American Drug Enforcement Agency, the Munich business transactions of the Lima narcotics bosses were terminated after a mere 3 days and resulted in a negative balance: Seizure of a total of 5 kilograms of cocaine with a retail value of DM 1.5 million and the arrest of seven European ring members.

With one exception, the seven ring members arrested are young Latin Americans who had come to Munich to obtain professional training and who had been living in foreign student dormitories on Adelheidstrasse and Guerickestrasse. The room which Ricardo G. (29)--a pediatrician licensed in his homeland who is presently in custody in Stadelheim--had been occupying in the "Latin America College" on Guerickestrasse was to serve as a marketing base. According to the investigations, it had been planned to supply from Munich not only the entire Federal Republic, but also the neighboring countries.

On the advice of his defense counsels Rolf Bossi and Steffen Ufer, the pediatrician, the son of German emigrants, who had come to Munich to complete his professional training, made a full confession which helped to clarify the facts. According to the attorneys, G. is "probably the smallest wheel in the syndicate machinery."

The First Tip Came From London

The beginnings of the investigations date back to September of last year. At that time, the narcotics investigators of the Bavarian State Criminal

Police Bureau and the Munich Customs Search Office had received a tip from London to the effect that narcotics dealers were planning to establish a cocaine marketing base in the Bavarian capital. Names were mentioned--the names of four of the persons to be arrested later. They were put under skillful surveillance and the State Criminal Police Bureau on Maillingerstrasse and the Customs Search Office were in on every one of their steps.

Dealer Observed in Riem [Munich Airport]

On 24 April of this year, Hermann Ruiz Q. (27) was observed taking leave of one of his "business partners" at the Riem airport, where he boarded a plane to Lima. The nature of his mission in the Peruvian capital was known down to the smallest detail: He was to make arrangements for the smuggling to Munich of approximately 5 kilograms of cocaine. According to the investigations by the District Attorney's Office, this was to be the ring's first European shipment. On 6 June, one of its couriers arrived at the Frankfurt airport, where he was welcomed not only by his drug traffic partners, but also by a group of customs officials. The searchers seized 2.2 kilograms of cocaine found in his luggage. The courier and the man who had met him at the airport were arrested.

Where Did the Second Shipment Go?

The investigators now had to find out what had happened to the second part of the cocaine shipment. They proceeded from the assumption--to be confirmed later--that the narcotic had already arrived in Munich. However, the confiscation of the cocaine was preceded by a Hollywood-style police operation: On 7 June, an agent of the American Drug Enforcement Agency--posing as a narcotics buyer--established contact in Hamburg with a member of the drug ring, the Chilean student Arias G. (25). The agent played the role so convincingly that the drug dealer took the bait and an agreement was reached.

A Sham Buyer Appears

The cocaine--a total of 2.7 kilograms--was to be delivered in Munich at the "wholesale price" of DM 380,000. In the night of 6/7 June, the cocaine dealer and his sham client arrived in Munich. It was arranged for the deal to be closed in the morning of 8 June. The cocaine was to be handed over in the sham buyer's room in a first-class Schwabing [Munich district] hotel. The drug dealer first drove in his yellow Passat [German make of car] to the dormitory on Guerickestrasse where the pediatrician was living. A short time later, officers of the State Criminal Police Bureau who had followed it in an unmarked car saw the yellow Passat on Leopoldstrasse, moving in the direction of the hotel where the sham buyer was waiting. Riding in the car were three members of the narcotics ring, including the pediatrician.

Detective Disguised as a Waiter

Having arrived at the hotel, the pediatrician stayed in the car, while his fellow defendants went up to the room of the American. One of them carried a light-colored bag containing the "stuff." In the hotel room, there followed the last act, which ended with the arrest of the drug dealers. In the toilet of the hotel room and in the hallway, officers of the State Criminal Police Bureau, some of whom were disguised as waiters, had been waiting for the arrival of the dealers.

Interpol Searching for the Boss

Interpol is presently trying to get ahold of the head of the Lima ring, a certain "Carlos Alalu," who in his circles is mostly known only by his first name. Aside from the pediatrician, some of the other ring members arrested made a partial confession. For example, the man who had smuggled the second shipment of 2.7 kilograms of cocaine to Munich via Switzerland admitted these facts. However, he claimed not to have known what was in the bag that "Carlos" had handed him in Lima. But he had to admit that he had been paid \$5,000 for the transport and this fact belies his alleged innocence.

8760
CSO: 5300

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

HEROIN SMUGGLING FROM ASIA TO FRG DISCUSSED

The 'Turkish Connection'

Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 27 Aug 79 pp 90-92, 96-98

[SPIEGEL report about areas of opium cultivation and new suppliers of heroin: "White Powder From the 'Turkish Connection'"]

[Text] "We are now fighting them with their own weapons," confessed Chinese Premier Chou En-lai years ago at a banquet in Cairo to Egyptian leader Jamal al-Nasir.

Opium had been the weapon employed against the Chinese by the British in the 19th century and the Japanese at the beginning of the 20th century, and now the Chinese, according to Chou, were helping to "produce opium for the U.S. soldiers in Vietnam."

The war was over in 1975. As tens of thousands of GI's were returning home as addicts, the poison came with them on the plane, hidden in their bags and also in the coffins carrying their dead comrades.

And ever since, a creeping opium war has ruled the world, seeking its victims primarily among Western youth--328 persons dead from narcotics in West Germany by July 1979, 109 dead in France in 1978, 87 in Denmark compared with a couple of dozen in 1970.

International narcotic agents talk about "tilting at windmills." "Whenever we cut off the Hydra's head," laments BKA [Federal Criminal Police Bureau] narcotic division chief Strass, "it grows another one." Everyone realizes the clearcut truth that as long as the opium-yielding poppy (papaver somniferum) is grown, there will be addicts.

From the Middle East to the Far East, there flowers the white, red and purple poppy whose gummy capsular juice, the raw opium, after being refined into heroin, thrills the West European fixers. It reaches their veins via tortuous detours.

The theater of operations in Vietnam was still dominated by the so-called Golden Triangle between Laos, Thailand and Burma, whose southern tip was formed by the southern Chinese Province of Yunnan. In good years some 700 to 1,000 tons of raw opium were harvested there, yielding something like 100 tons of heroin.

The barren mountain regions populated by the warlike Meo and Shan tribes and by Nationalist Chinese Kuomintang soldiers dispersed there in 1949 are virtually impossible to subject to any government control; the boundaries shown on maps are meaningless, what with ever new borders being drawn by gunfire.

For centuries the cultivation of poppy there has been the sole source of livelihood of the mountain peasants; for a long time it was for their own use, until finally the GI's in Vietnam caused the first great boom.

Capable Chinese businessmen in Hong Kong and Singapore and no less astute Malaysians in Kuala Lumpur took a firm hold of the business and expanded it by seeing to it that the areas of cultivation were constantly increased.

With porters and caravans of mules and horses, the opium, escorted by warriors brimming with arms, is taken down from the mountains via ever new routes. Quite often it is transferred to junks in Chinese waters and processed into heroin in the poison kitchens of Hong Kong, Singapore and Bangkok or on laboratory ships off the Burmese coast.

All of a sudden, when the Vietnam war was at an end, the big business of the narcotic magnates organized in triads (secret family associations) appeared to be over. But they decided to pursue their customers, and their welfare program even included GI's on German soil. In addition they benefited from a fortunate event--the end of the so-called "French connection" in 1972.

Turkish opium from illegal and illegally branched off stocks, smuggled by Turks to Marseilles, refined there by Corsican and Sardinian experts and then shipped on, had been the classic reservoir of fixers in Europe and the United States during the late 1960's and early 1970's until international narcotic squads put an end to all the laboratories. With political pressure and dollars to boot, the United States, having been supplied up to 80 percent by the "French connection," induced Turkey to control cultivation of its precious opium-yielding poppy.

Chinese in Amsterdam's restive Chinatown at that time discovered possible new ways and with the bigshots in the Far East established the "Dutch connection," which until 1977 gave Amsterdam the dubious reputation of a distribution center for the smuggling of heroin in Europe. Amsterdam also supplied 80 percent of the "Hong Kong rocks"--not exactly high-class stuff--of the German market.

The Chinese hit on bad times when the Dutch took rigorous steps to control foreigners. As a prosecutor in The Hague realized in 1975, "the Chinese criminals can put pressure on others because many are in Amsterdam illegally."

Within a period of a little over 2 years, 1,800 illegal Chinese immigrants were expelled. By 1978, 150 big dealers were apprehended, while others had killed off one another in bloody triad struggles. There was a drought in Chinatown, and at the end of 1976 heroin was so scarce that prices climbed from 200 to 1,000 deutsche marks a gram.

What narcotic agents always had suspected (Strass: "There will be competition for the Chinese") occurred without delay. The finest white "H-4" started trickling in from areas of illegal cultivation on the border between Afghanistan and Pakistan, where the situation was similar to the one in the Golden Triangle: Pathan warlike tribes eager for autonomy make any government control there virtually impossible. (See piece starting on page 92 [related article below].)

The scarcity in Europe started an avalanche of heroin, the "Turkish connection," new in structure and routes and more dangerous than anything preceding it.

Ever since they first came as foreign workers to the West, the Turks have engaged in busy migration between the FRG and the Bosphorus. In the circumstances, such Turks as now are transporting the stuff "by car, truck, train, in luggage, on the body, in the body" (Strass) do not draw any particular attention.

The opium of the new source is generally smuggled through Iran into Kurdish tribal areas of Turkey and there, near Gaziantep or Diyarbakir, and also in Syria, is processed into a fine powder. Then come the transshipment places in Izmir (for maritime transport via Greece and Italy) and Istanbul (for overland transport via the Balkans).

Smugglers on each side of the Aegean have buried the hatchet of Greek-Turkish enmity. The Aegean Islands serve as places of exchange and storage to such an extent that the minister of finance, under reference 2537, addressed a memorandum to the ministries of foreign affairs, public order and national defense and to the intelligence service stating that "if at all possible, better living conditions" have to be created for the inhabitants of the Aegean islands because evidently "illegal trade relations" with the Turks are being used by them to satisfy "often vital needs of supply."

The overland routes of the new "connection" meanwhile are also causing difficulties for other bordering countries. Within a single year Ivan Stoimenov, a customs official on the Yugoslav-Bulgarian border, discovered 16 automobiles with 550 kilograms of drugs.

While the 66 cars with smuggled narcotics confiscated by Yugoslavia in 1978 yielded Tito's state the equivalent of 75 million deutsche marks, this is small consolation for the costs entailed in prosecution, in the Belgrade view: "If each day of arrest costs 10 dollars, Yugoslavia has to come up with over a million dollars a year for smugglers who are not Yugoslav citizens."

The complaint is just as loud in the newspapers of neighboring Bulgaria: "When we confiscate 100 smuggled watches we save the state about 100,000 levs, but when we confiscate 100 kilograms of narcotics we gain nothing."

West European narcotic agents find it just as hard to cope with the ant-like invasion of ad hoc traders via the Balkans as with the evident decentralization of the distributor organization. Swiss prosecutor Max Imhof: "We must get away from the notion of a Mafia type of dope ring with a big crook behind the scenes."

Many Turks are lured by the easy and quick money they can make with a few inconspicuous grams of heroin, while others are made to go into the dealer business by force. Non-Turks, particularly Arabs, are attracted by the new connection as if by magic. Thus, during the latest police raid in Istanbul last week, two Turks, two Egyptians, one Syrian and one Iraqi were arrested prior to a planned trip to the north. A total of 2.9 kilograms of heroin had been hidden in the chassis of their car.

The fact that Turks and Turkey are again in the center of illegal trade with the lethal narcotic is causing all the more concern to narcotic experts throughout the world because they thought that at long last they were in a position to show off Turkey as a model of controlled poppy cultivation--following attempts for decades at various locations.

In March 1971 the United Nations had [established] a special fund for drug abuse control (UNFDAC) intended to strike not at the final stage of the narcotic problem but at the root of it--by changing the agrarian structure in countries growing the hemp and poppy plants which form the basic material of hashish and heroin.

For in the Golden Triangle as well as in Afghanistan and Pakistan, in Turkey and in Iran and also in Mexico, peasants for generations and in many cases for centuries have lived off the cultivation of poppy.

In Turkey, for instance, the product of the poppy has given the Province of Afyon its name: Afyon means opium. The poppy flower figured on coins, and Anatolian peasants of the originally 42 opium cultivation provinces used to give their daughters the narcotic as a dowry. They themselves used the opium juice as a stimulant in their morning tea or as a medicine against all kinds of ailments. Drops of it are even put in the milk bottles of infants.

For poor developing countries the opium-yielding poppy in many respects proved the ideal plant to be cultivated. The gaining of opium is particularly labor-intensive: up to 250 hours of labor are required for the production of 1 kilogram of opium. The economic hectare yield is far above that of wheat barley or alfalfa. The poppy seed may be used to produce an oil, the residue can be used as fodder, and the well-organized chains of dealers make it unnecessary for the peasants to concern themselves with the transport and marketing of the harvest.

Mere bans on cultivation are therefore of little use. In Thailand, for example, the United Nations started out by using the UNFDAC fund for an alternative cultivation program. In 30 of altogether 700 to 1,000 villages living off opium, agricultural experts replaced the poppy fields with coffee plantations, orchards and the cultivation of vegetables. Thanks to UN support, the peasants obtained more money for their coffee beans and pulse than they used to get for the capsular fruits of the poppy.

In addition the development of a domestic handicraft is being promoted. Then there is a program to eradicate illiteracy, an enlightenment campaign about the harmfulness of drug consumption and the establishment of three clinics to treat the large number of native addicts.

Similar programs as in Thailand were also started in the Buner Region of Pakistan, an area of about 1,740 square kilometers consisting of valleys and mountains reaching as high as 3,000 meters. According to a 1975 UN study, 80 percent of all households in that area were living exclusively off agriculture, and 70 percent of all peasants were growing poppy. Almost 90 percent of the entire cash income of the peasants derived from the sale of opium. In the dry subtropical climate of Buner, the UN experts established, made it possible, for example, to cultivate tobacco and fruits in place of growing poppy.

In Burma the United Nations has supported various government programs with 6.5 million dollars since 1976. According to experience gathered so far, in addition to coffee and grain, flowers and rice are suited for covering the peasants' own needs. At present the cultivation of walnuts is being tested. But in many places it is first necessary to build irrigation installations.

Not least, the success achieved in alternative cultivation has remained modest because the UN fund for fighting drug abuse has been short of money in the initial years.

According to the budget drawn up by the founders of UNFDAC, the fund was to receive 95 million dollars through voluntary contributions by UN member countries, but 4 years after UNFDAC was established only 17.7 million dollars had been received in the form of payments or even only pledges. Most of this--14 million dollars--came from the United States.

Other member countries that could afford to pay, such as the West Europeans, regarded the narcotic problem for the time being as a uniquely American question which did not concern them very much.

Only after the Southeast Asian dealers, following the departure of U.S. forces from Vietnam, swept their opium to Western Europe, were the authorities in Berlin, Amsterdam aroused. In 1978 the West Europeans were prepared to contribute at least about 10 percent of the annual UNFDAC contributions, in the amount of 3 million dollars.

Nevertheless the United States, with its half million heroin addicts, remained the motive power in the international fight against drugs, with U.S. narcotic agents of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) training counterparts from all over the world.

It was above all due to U.S. pressure that in 1971 Turkey, previously the main supplier of illegal opium to Western Europe and the United States, issued a total ban against the growing of poppy, which, though it was canceled again in 1975, was celebrated as a victory.

Since that time, planters of poppy have had to apply for a government license, which they receive only if they can show that they have a clean record. Cultivation takes place in seven provinces--in fields contiguous to one another, making it possible to keep them fairly easily under surveillance and, moreover, to survey them again after each harvest.

Contrary to previous practice, the Turks are no longer permitted themselves to scarify the capsular fruit of the poppy to enable the opium juice to come out and to be picked after it has dried slightly. Rather, they have to deliver the whole plant intact. And during those 5 days in which alone the intoxicating juice can be extracted, the fields are sealed off and kept under strict armed militia guard.

What with the drying up of the Turkish sources and the end of the "French connection," a new route opened up both for North America and Western Europe: the "Mexican connection." It now took up to 70 percent of the heroin destined for the American market.

As a countermeasure, Washington equipped the Mexican Government in 1976 with 14.5 million dollars for technical assistance and planes in fighting drugs. One year later, the United States added another 11 million dollars.

Under U.S. guidance, Mexican army and police units combed the poppy cultivation areas in the northwest of the country, and planes sprayed discovered opium fields with herbicides, destroying an estimated 20,000 opium plants in 1975/1976.

Later the new Mexican president, Lopez Portillo, dispatched more than 10,000 soldiers into the antidrug "Operacion Condor." More than 700 people were arrested in the State of Sinaloa alone--but so far the "Mexican connection" has not been effectively disrupted.

"One of the elementary lessons we have learned," says the former U.S. coordinator for international drug problems David H. Ernst, "is the fact that whenever we make progress in one area of the world, the problem crops up anew in another area."

It does not always have to be another area, for in the Promised Land back of the Bosphorus, opium appears to be growing another Hydra's head.

When FRG agents question nabbed heroin smugglers about the extraction of opium juice in Turkey, it does not take long for them to become well informed about the production and distribution of heroin from Turkish fields. They learn that not only is the juice again extracted, illegally, on the legalized opium-yielding poppy plantations but the small peasant secretly tends his poppy field back of his house.

The "best heroin producer in Turkey," according to the Duesseldorf LKA [Land Criminal Police Office], is a man named Ismet Kostu, an extremely wealthy steelworks owner whose relatives are reported to be operating as couriers and distributors in the FRG.

Waht Kostu's compatriots are saying about him and his family confirms the newly formed suspicion of some narcotic agents that, all government controls notwithstanding, opium juice from legal poppy fields in Turkey continues to flow into the forbidden channels.

According to findings by the police, the Kostu clan in Hassa, in the Iskenderun area, "grows opium-yielding poppy, harvests the opium juice and itself processes the opium into heroin."

In the regions around Gaziantep and Malatya as well, the agents established, poppy is being grown for the purpose of gaining opium. They say that "smuggling in heroin is thriving" there.

Information about the state of the fields often is passed tersely to Turkish go-betweens in the FRG, such as in a phone call to Frankfurt last summer: "The harvest of Erguvan is good."

Focal points of contact for export to the FRG are the cafes and hotels in Istanbul. For example, buyers met with one Ali Aslan in a luxury hotel on the Bosphorus to discuss the export in detail. And then, in a brown Mercedes 450 with customs tags and 2 kilograms of heroin on board, the trip across the Balkans to the FRG began.

Apart from the additional amounts from Turkey, sizable quantities of heroin recently have been reaching the fixer market from Lebanon, for since the middle of last year poppy has been grown in that traditional cannabis-growing country in the areas of Jammuna, Baalbek and Hermel, in which Syrian forces are encountered only sporadically.

The chances are that the market and its methods will get tougher. While, owing to a continual drought in the Golden Triangle, this year's poppy yields are two-thirds lower than last year's, the Pathan corner in Pakistan more than compensates for this shortfall.

Pakistani dealers still have remainders from last year in their inventories. Muslim General Zia-ul-Haq recently made the puffing of opium* a criminal

*In Asia they do not use a syringe but "chase the dragon" by heating heroin on tinfoil and breathing in the steam through tubes, or smoking opium in pipes.

offense, the one-time legal dealers have gone underground. Their quondam customers, the country's addicts, now receive their portions by prescription from the state.

The harvest in April was a record one. According to BKA estimates, 500 to 600 tons of raw opium were made available at the Afghan-Pakistani border. By the end of the year the total is expected to reach 1,000.

In addition illegally grown opium is flowing into the big stream of the "Turkish connection" from Iran. While the shah was in power, the cultivation of 16,000 hectares was permitted; according to U.S. experts, 26,000 hectares are now being cultivated, and in the opinion of one U.S. drug expert "no one is exercising any control any longer--not even Khomeyni's forces."

In the face of this excessive supply of unadulterated merchandise, the Chinese, who had virtually vanished from the new German market after the Amsterdam defeat, nevertheless paid a great deal of attention to figuring out new ways as illicit dealers on German, French, British and Scandinavian soil.

What worked to their disadvantage was the long maritime or aerial routes, plus their type of courier which appeared to have crystallized after hundreds of arrests. "He was in his twenties and had had little training," says Superintendent Dick Williamson of the Hong Kong drug police, "looked out of place in his new suit and was on his way to visit a cousin in Amsterdam or London."

Of late, however, according to Williamson, "just about anyone" is liable to be carrying the little packages bearing the trademark well known to any dealer or fixer. "A big-bellied businessman in smart shiny duds; a middle-aged banker in a blue suit and wearing Gucci shoes; a European student in jeans on a vacation into the blue, long-haired and a knapsack on his back. Or it may be a young mother with a 6-month-old baby, the obligatory milk bottle and a supply of Pampers, the visitor to a fair, a pilgrim on the way to Mecca, a pilgrim en route to the Vatican. All of that has happened."

And Frankfurt Prosecutor Harald Koerner, who has studied the practices of the Southeast Asians on location, says that "itineraries are becoming increasingly confusing. Hardly anyone ever takes a direct flight to Frankfurt any longer," but clever detours are taken to deceive the pursuing agents.

Apparently Moscow is particularly popular as a way station. The reason: Transients from the Far East are only occasionally subjected to rigorous checks in Moscow. In turn, when they land at airports in the West, customs agents all too frequently assume that whoever comes from Moscow no longer needs to receive careful attention.

At the heroin turnstyle for all of Scandinavia--Copenhagen--the triad bosses nevertheless slowly but surely are coming up against tough competition. At the beginning of this year Danish police tracked down a ring which had been established by one Marie Fink, 52, married to a Turk.

Despite the arrest of a dealer, Mrs Fink (resident in Ankara and at Sosum near Frederikssund) arrived in Denmark with a brandnew Rover 3500. She was arrested. The volume of her business with the new Pakistani-Afghan stuff had been worth 30 million deutsche marks.

The solid existence of this latest "connection" was confirmed in April by the arrest of Vigo Henning Nielsen, 52, until a couple of years ago the head of the Bari pipe factory and still the owner of several restaurants. With his two sons, Kaj and Jorgen, and others he had supplied Danish fixers with Middle Eastern heroin.

Furthermore the Turkish channel appears to be opening up in the country first ravaged by the Vietnam virus where narcotic agents are resting on the laurels of their Mexican battle--the United States.

"Our problem has decreased," maintains Lee Dogalof, the head of the antidrug-abuse staff in the White House.

And in fact the number of heroin addicts has gone down by 100,000 to 450,000, the number of dead even by 50 percent--from about 190 in 1976 to 95 in 1977, with this trend continuing. In any case, Dogalof concedes: "We might again become the victim at any time."

The U.S. victim has long since been squirming in the nets of the triads: in 1976 about 90 percent of the stuff imported into the United States came from Mexico, while at present this figure is down to 56 percent.

The Far East is supplying 36 percent, and with 8 percent the Turks have a hand in it, via old routes. Marseilles is operating again; as yet in a small way, but the stuff is okay.

The Afghan-Pakistani Opium Scene

Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 27 Aug 79 pp 92-93

[Article by SPIEGEL editor Erich Wiedemann on the opium-growing areas of Pakistan: "Stuff at the 'Place Between Two Hells'"]

[Text] A cardboard sign on the shutters of the "Restaurant to the Seven Dreams" shows what has happened to the hashish and opium gastronomy in Peshawar: "The management announces the closing of the establishment. The new owner is the Punjab Fried Chicken Company."

The dream has vanished; it will take some time before someone takes off here again. The fault lies primarily with the ayatollahs and the communists, for the regime of the Iranian anabaptists and the civil war in Afghanistan have slashed the dream road of the hippies and junkies. Moreover, fixing and taking hash in the strictly Islamic Pakistan now is punished by thrashing--not very consistently, but the no-risk aura is gone.

The Rainbow Hotel on Railway Road is shutting its doors as well. "No more customers," says the owner; "last month, there came three done-for types who wanted to get their final shot. One made it, the others I threw out." No: he cannot make a living off such guests.

Taxi driver Khalid Latif is not inclined to share such fatalism. Despite bad weather, his poppy field yielded more than 10 kilograms of opium in the spring--a profit of 2,000 deutsche marks' worth for Khalid.

The gap between producer and final consumer prices in the opium business is due to market phenomena which have again become shaky of late. The stop in replenishments from the Far East and a severe reduction in domestic demand in Pakistan and Afghanistan and, at the same time, a strong increase in consumption in West Europe have helped the Pakistani-Afghan opium trade to attain an unprecedented prosperity. According to U.S. estimates, the total production in 1978 amounted to 800 to 1,000 tons--about half of global production.

Purely from the economic point of view, the opium situation is this: The area of cultivation for profitable planting in the karstic regions of the Middle East is limited by nature. "How else is a family of eight supposed to make a living if it has only half a hectare of land?" asks Sajjad Sahid, the director of the Pakistan Narcotics Control Board. While half a hectare of poppy yields the equivalent of 3,000 to 4,000 deutsche marks a year, half a hectare of tobacco, the next most profitable plant, yields only 500 deutsche marks' worth. The income of a poppy planter amounts to about 6,000 deutsche marks a year--a great deal of money in a country with a per capita income amounting to 350 deutsche marks.

Even if the governments in Kabul and Islamabad were to strictly ban any growing of poppy, the border area between the two countries would remain the top opium supplier in the world, because by far the richest areas of cultivation lie in the Tribal Territories, an 80-to-100-kilometer-wide strip extending along the Pakistani-Afghan border from the Soviet Union to Beluchistan. These are ruled by the Pathans, fierce tribal warriors passing to their children preponderantly stories about blood feud, opium wars and cut-off wars.

The Pathan country is barred to General Zia's Pakistani and President Taraki's Afghan soldiers. In exchange for their autonomy, the Pathans grant civilians the right of transit on the road leading across the Khyber pass. They also let foreigners pass through unscathed. The authorities do not even intervene when vendetta battles rage in the Territories; their autonomy includes the right to wage a blood feud.

Though himself a Pathan, Khalid Latif demands a 100-percent hazard premium for the drive into the Tribal Territories. In turn, the passenger is entitled to protection by Khalid's six-shooter. Ten kilometers after leaving Peshawar, the driver-soldier takes his revolver from the glove compartment and puts it on the seat. Here Khalid is at home; here a man can still display his weapon.

Left and right on the mountain slopes hang the forts of the Pathan clans--proud castles with crenels in their walls, the better ones even equipped with their own gasoline station and mosque.

In the interior yards, they concoct hashish. But hashish actually yields a far smaller profit than opium. The big opium kitchens are located in Swat, about 100 kilometers to the north. Swat is out of bounds for foreigners, not so much because of the opium as because of the serfs, who--partly in chains--scarify the capsular poppy fruit for its expensive juice. Even in the most remote Pakistan one does not care to display that sort of thing.

A short distance before Landi Kotal three warriors with submachineguns block the road. Khalid steps on the brake and shouts at them saying that he is carrying an "Alemani." The warriors grin, embarrassed, saying that all they wanted was a light for their Chesterfields.

The old opium dealer in the bazaar in Landi Kotal looks more fierce. He has placed a dozen or more opium packages wrapped in leaves on the decimal balance but the customer wants more, saying that the weights are worn. The old man flies into a rage. Furious, he rips a loaf of opium from the shelf, breaks it in two and bangs the bigger half on the scale, worth at least a Porsche Targa. With the inventory stacked up to the ceiling of the ramshackle wooden shack, the drug scene of the German fixer capital, Berlin, could be kept going for a quarter of a year.

No wonder. Thanks to its ideal border location, Landi Kotal is the turntable of the Afghan-Pakistani opium trade. The annual turnover in the hot merchandise is more than 150 tons--enough to saturate all of West Europe.

Heroin and also the morphine base carried by Turkish foreign workers to West Germany originate for the greater part in Landi Kotal. All that the Turkish dealers do is to have the opium from the Territories refined in Anatolia.

Roughly 10 kilograms of raw opium yield 1 kilogram of heroin or morphine base, or 5,000 morphine sulfate dragees, which, though less economical, are very popular, because they can easily be concealed in the knots of neckties, lipstick cases and film cartridges.

Dealers of stature have their utensils produced in Darrha. A completely new industry has been created in that small place, popularly known as the "place between the two hells." The goods can be viewed in the street--suitcases with false bottoms and fixed gasoline tanks. The owner of the New Blacksmith Company reads Khalid the riot act because, thinking nothing, he has betrayed commercial secrets.

His wrath goes down some when he learns that the stranger is "a friend of the Pathans from Germany." The Germans are his favorite customers, he says. They include three young people who come twice every year in a new Mercedes, fly off to Bangkok for a seaside vacation and 4 weeks later come to get their

car again, loaded and welded without giving off any smell.

The Germans even leave it to him to do the purchasing, and pay without checking. Opium trade is a matter of trust. Their license plates, however, they always take off a couple of kilometers before reaching the place.

For "freelancers" without their own service network who like to make it with one coup, the traders in Darrha and Landi Kotal have instituted a supply service. For a small surcharge, the stuff is delivered in a fixed suitcase to the transients' hall of Karachi airport. If large deliveries are involved, a courier drives a half day's distance ahead of the supply vehicle to insure smooth transit through the police checkpoints between Peshawar and Karachi.

Overland deliveries by truck generally are so well camouflaged that they reach their destination almost without any bribe money being spent. "Only at the German border, one has to grease the palms of customs officers," says a man in the know; those of the other countries are too sleepy anyway to notice anything."

The fact that corruption is not only the result of the sloppy eastern way of doing business has become known not among German police but among dealers. A German woman of the "Baltimore gang" who recently was trapped in Sahid's net claimed that allegedly customs officers at Frankfurt airport were included in the bribe money list of the narcotic wholesalers.

The courier deposits the suitcase he is smuggling in a baggage locker and gives the key to a "local agent" who arranges with a bought customs officer for it to go through customs.

Director Sahid could give the Germans a great many tips, but unfortunately, he says, no one asks him to.

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FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

SEIZURES OF HEROIN IN AMSTERDAM, FRANKFURT, OFFENBACH REPORTED

Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU in German 17 Aug 79 p 13

[Report by Volker Gallandi of FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU: "A Dozen Kilograms of Heroin Suffice for 300,000 New Addicts--Police Seize Drugs and Arrest Dealers"]

[Text] In cooperation with Dutch police, Frankfurt police and the Public Prosecutor's Office, the Federal Criminal Police Bureau has managed to deal a significant blow to the international drug trade. In Amsterdam 12 kilograms of presumably pure heroin were seized, 1 kilogram was found in the possession of a couple of Turks within the urban confines of Frankfurt, and another 400 grams of pure heroin were confiscated at the Carl Ulrich Bridge in Offenbach near the bank of the Main.

The narcotic agents managed their catch in Amsterdam after preliminary work meeting high-strategy standards. Against payment of 4,000 deutsche marks, a Thai who was in financial straits had said he was willing to start a suitcase with contents unknown to him on its way to Europe. In Bahrain the suitcase was taken over by another East Asian, who in turn passed it to his wife. She turned over the expensive cargo to a Dutchman, who was finally arrested in Amsterdam.

For the Thai detained in Frankfurt, the offer by the heroin dealers constituted an attractive opportunity quickly to get hold of what was--for him--a great deal of money. In addition to the money he had received, he was carrying a first-class return ticket.

The Frankfurt Public Prosecutor's Office very nearly had been obliged to set the Asian free again, because the suitcase with the narcotic was still on the plane and it was therefore a matter of dispute whether, according to FRG customs regulations, "importation" of the narcotic had in fact taken place. Nor was it possible in light of this situation to consider the possibility of violations of the narcotics law. In any case the legal question has been clarified: not airports but only appropriately designated ports and the Island of Helgoland are duty-free zones. Thus the Thai will be tried for having violated customs regulations.

In the second case two Turks were seized while in possession of the "best stuff," which even was still under seal. In case No 3, another 5 persons were arrested in connection with the seizure of 400 grams of pure heroin.

To fathom the importance of these finds, one has to realize that at the moment 1 gram of average heroin fetches from 200 to 300 deutsche marks on the "market." There is no precise price because a so-called "heroin glut" has swept the "scene" at the moment.

What is more important than this price, however, is the danger of the spreading of the heroin that such a quantity entails. Taking a case concerning 4.5 kilograms of heroin, a Frankfurt prosecutor recently calculated that such a quantity sufficed to make addicts out of 100,000 narcotic candidates. Accordingly the dealers theoretically could "push" 300,000 addicts with the amount seized in Amsterdam.

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FRANCE

BRIEFS

OVERDOSE DEATH STATISTICS--Here are the figures on deaths from drug overdoses: 10 deaths in 6 months on the Cote d'Azur. There were two a week or so ago, three in August, one in July, one in May and two in March. These statistics tie in with the renewed operations of the "French connection," exposed by the Italian police. [Text] [Paris VALEURS ACTUELLES in French 10 Sep 79 p 13]

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PORTUGAL

CHINESE TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED TRANSPORTING HEROIN

Eight Kilograms Confiscated

Porto O PRIMEIRO DE JANEIRO in Portuguese 7 Aug 79 p 7

[Text] "This is the first large heroin seizure in Portugal. Until now we had not even suspected that international routes went through here," an investigator at the Lisbon Center for Investigation and Control of Drugs (CICD) told O PRIMEIRO DE JANEIRO. He was referring to the 8 kg of heroin (with a market value of about 200,000 contos), which that agency seized as a result of a wide-ranging operation carried out in recent weeks.

Two of the three international traffickers--Chinese natives of Hong Kong bearing English passports--were also arrested by the CICD on the "Sud-Express," en route to France. After crossing the Portuguese border, the heroin would have gone via Paris to Amsterdam, since the 8 kg were destined for the traditionally receptive Dutch market.

Asked about the significance of the seizure for a country like Holland, the Lisbon CICD official said simply: "Obviously, it is large. This is not 8 kg of hashish. Heroin is a killer."

In the opinion of the investigator, the seizure is equally important for Portugal, for several reasons: not only because it reveals a trend in international routes and constitutes a warning which will result in greater vigilance in the future, but also because the Portuguese heroin market is generally supplied through Amsterdam, where user-traffickers buy 1 or 2 ounces (a few grams) at retail to sell and consume in our country.

"Well, if the drug is prevented from reaching Holland, it cannot be sold there to supply the Portuguese market," he commented.

Enough to supply Portugal For a Year

Our market cannot handle such a large transaction, because "for the time being--fortunately--that amount of heroin would be enough to supply Portugal for an entire year."

In fact, as the CICD official explained to us, "The seizures to date have never exceeded 1 or 2 grams," since "heroin traffic is not at all organized in our country."

The CICD warns, however, that "the size of the shipment seized now reveals that national territory is frequently used as a transit point for international trade,...which is the first step toward importation and a situation of imminent danger."

The official explains: "Given the drug's destination, these seizures obviously do not indicate increased drug use in Portugal. Besides, even when the drugs are destined for the domestic market, it would be a simplistic view of the drug phenomenon to look at drug seizures as sure indicators of an increasing drug incidence."

Danger in Pharmacies

Given the Portuguese market, the small quantities that are obtainable by robbing pharmacies would be a significant amount. Incidentally, this was the nature of a warning the CICD made some time ago, which the competent authorities continue to ignore.

"We have already alerted the General Directorate of Pharmacies, and nothing has been decided yet," the investigator commented, adding:

"Heroin is an analgesic which has not been used therapeutically for over 13 years. Doctors now prefer to prescribe morphine or milder products. Nevertheless, the pharmacies continue to keep a "stock," out of inertia, neglecting to take a simple measure for their own security. By disposing of the heroin they still have, the pharmacists would offer less temptation for possible robbers. Moreover, they would not suffer any great loss; although a gram of heroin is worth about 1,500 escudos on the free market, it sells for about 12.50 escudos directly over the counter.

Such a simple measure would require only that an official agency assume the job of contacting the establishments and calling in their existing--usually small--heroin stocks.

Meanwhile, the CICD points out, "over 2,000 doses of diamorphine, equal to 250 grams of heroin, have been introduced on the domestic market as a result of various pharmacy robberies, and for this reason "the center has warned of this danger and has proposed measures, arguing for the establishment of a

"system of supervision, control and security in the distribution of psychotropic medicines. This primary goal, at the domestic market level, is yet to be achieved, for reasons known to the center."

Algarve No Problem

As can be deduced from the importance the CICD ascribes to the 250 grams of heroin stolen from pharmacies, the movement through Portugal of no less than 8 kg is indeed significant.

On the other hand, as the CICD explained to us, it is very difficult to detect the traffic in the small quantities that supply the Portuguese market. That market is supplied basically by the two methods mentioned above: with small purchases in Amsterdam and through thefts.

Shouldn't the constant flow of tourists through our country be taken into account, particularly in the Algarve, where the tourism is sometimes luxury class?

Certainly, the existence of a rich and "carefree" market is an enticement to the trafficker, but "Algarve is not a problem," a CICD official explained to us.

"In effect, consumption is higher there, and for this reason there are some tourists who economize on their vacations by purchasing small amounts of heroin at a low price on well-stocked markets and selling it at some profit. Well, this kind of 'cottage' traffic, in small quantities, is extremely hard to detect and control."

On the other hand, if that kind of traffic is hard to detect simply because it is small, we can also be assured that, for the time being, the Algarve has not yet become an important center for trafficking and consumption of hard drugs.

Fugitive Chinese

Returning to the present case, however, it does not take much imagination to lend it the suspense of a police film.

As the Chinese in movies are always "inscrutable" or "Machiavellian," it is not hard to envision them in an interesting and fast-moving plot, especially when there is also a manhunt and the CICD, for obvious reasons, is withholding details for the time being.

Referring to the fugitive, the CICD commented: "Having abandoned his precious cargo, he is now in a difficult and dangerous situation," having to face his "supervisors" and "commanders."

This means that there is a hunted Chinese at large in our country, which has promise, at least as a point of departure for the nation's imagination,

which has lately been occupied solely with the dramatic effects of high prices and the fantastic denouncements of successive government crises.

Network Passes Through Macao

As the CICD itself comments, the fact that the Chinese fugitive is now being hunted--after abandoning his suitcase filled with heroin--places him in a vulnerable position; he must presume that he will either be caught or be banished from the international drug circuit.

In effect--and basically--the seizure of 200,000 conto's worth of heroin is a significant blow to the international organization. Headquartered in Hong Kong, it bought the drug in Bangkok, to "poison" the world with it.

Given its location, it is natural that the network also has "bureaus" in Macao. As a CICD investigator explained to us, the traffickers who operate in Hong Kong also operate in Macao, and there is close communication between the two countries in this respect.

Two Bulging Suitcases

The choice of our country to transport "such hot" material is a normal precaution; first, because a traveler arriving in Amsterdam from Southeast Asia would be checked out immediately and, second, because Portuguese customs officers are still not particularly skilled in such detection. In the third place, a Portuguese stamp on a passport is good insurance.

This explains why the three Chinese chose to take this wide swing before proceeding to Amsterdam.

One of the suitcases, which we could see was still stuffed with heroin, would otherwise have easily aroused the suspicion of alert customs officers. Although it was skillfully concealed in a false bottom, the 5 kg of heroin, with its added weight, would not have gone unnoticed.

"But the other suitcase," commented the CICD official, "had a good chance of passing even a well guarded border; the 1 and 1/2 kg were carefully concealed in the decorative bindings.

It is not to be supposed, however, that the Portuguese investigators had an easy time achieving a "happy" outcome (not happy for the Chinese, certainly). Some 28 CICD investigators worked with the Border Guard and the General Directorate of Customs for weeks on end.

Their success is the fruit of an older ongoing operation developed during the last three months, which were spent studying the itineraries and the profiles of the "couriers," as well as intensive vigilance and supervision of points in our country that are vulnerable to the entry of drugs.

One Trafficker Escapes

Porto O PRIMEIRO DE JANEIRO in Portuguese 8 Aug 79 p 6

[Text] The Chinese heroin trafficker who managed to escape from the authorities may already have left the country. The trafficker had been arrested in Lisbon along with two other Chinese, en route to Amsterdam and carrying 8 kg of heroin, as reported yesterday in O PRIMEIRO DE JANEIRO.

Although INTERPOL has been alerted, the police will have some difficulty detecting the Chinese trafficker, who carried a false passport, once he has left the country, a CICD [Center of Investigation and Control of Drugs] spokesman admitted to O PRIMEIRO DE JANEIRO.

The false passports carried by the three Chinese traffickers are one of the distinctive marks of the criminal element that roams the world with very little likelihood of police detection.

The same source admitted that the Chinese fugitive, who is somewhere in Europe, could have more to fear at the hands of his controllers than from the police hunt.

In effect, the fact that the "merchandise" did not arrive in Paris for delivery to Amsterdam could mean that the Chinese "courier," who has not been apprehended yet, has provoked the wrath of his supervisors.

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END